

## Cross River State Commissioner of Police, Hafiz Inuwa

### **Mudiaga Affe**

The Cross River State Police Command on Saturday rescued one Mrs. Comfort Udoenwang, kidnapped on October 2, 2017 by gunmen and taken to Akpap-Okoyong village in Odukpani Local Government Area of the state.

The state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Hafiz Inuwa, who disclosed this in Calabar, said the victim was rescued in the early hours of Saturday.

Inuwa said the suspect was whisked away on October 2, along Jesus Avenue in Calabar-South.

He added that the rescue operation was carried out by the newly formed anti-kidnapping/cultism unit of the command.

He said, “At the early hours of Saturday, my men swooped into a kidnapper’s hideout identified to be that of a syndicate that specialises in kidnapping, robbery and assassination as well as that of a group that kidnapped Mrs. Udoenwang.

“On sighting the police, the hoodlums opened fire on our detectives and as a result of exchange of fire, one of the suspects, Isaac Sabastine, was gunned down. His dead body has been deposited at the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital mortuary.

“We recovered one locally-made pistol and a live cartridge, axe, Nigerian army camouflage, one mask and one Black Axe confraternity banner. We also arrested one of the suspects, Elle David, while their kingpin, one Ayi Etok, narrowly escaped with gunshot wounds.

“A Toyota Highlander with number plate ANA 420 CK belonging to the victim was also recovered. Investigation is ongoing to arrest the fleeing suspects.”

The commissioner warned those with criminal intent to desist from the act, saying the command under his leadership would not spare anyone caught engaging in illegality.