

We received death threats over our kinsman killed by vigilantes –Sister

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The family of Chukwudi Ogbonna of Isigwe-Ugboawka community in the Nkanu East area of Enugu State, have raised the alarm that their lives are under threat after the 28-year-old was allegedly murdered by vigilantes.

Chukwudi was reportedly arrested on August 28, 2019, by the community's neighbourhood security watch for alleged vandalism

of a transformer and was later shot dead.

The Enugu Electricity Distribution Company, which owned the transformer, however, wrote to the police denying the claim that the victim vandalised its property.

PUNCH Metro gathered that soon after the murder of Chukwudi, the police in Amagunze division, arrested two members of the vigilantes, but later released them.

However, the elder sister of the deceased, Ms Juliet Ogbonna, petitioned the Inspector General of Police, who directed the Zone 9 Police Command, Umuahia, to investigate the murder.

Investigation subsequently led to the arrest of two vigilante members from the Ugboawka community — Chidiebere Ogbodo and Chukwu Ifeanyi — who were arraigned and remanded in prison.

Juliet said since the duo were remanded, her family had been facing threats.

“None of my siblings is living in the community again for fear of being killed as well. We want protection and we justice for our late brother,” she added.

She noted that an autopsy report revealed that Chukwudi was killed by an AK-47 rifle bullet.

Juliet claimed that her family had been getting reports of plans to bribe the attorney general of the state to enter a nolle prosequere (will no longer prosecute) submission in the court case.

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