

# American murder suspect detained despite DPP clearance – Adegboruwa

Oladimeji Ramon 22 March 2021

Kindly share this story: [f](#) [t](#) [w](#) [in](#)



Ebun-Olu Adegboruwa

HUMAN rights lawyer, Mr Ebun-Olu Adegboruwa (SAN), has decried the continued detention of his American client, Kari R'ouke, by the Lagos police in connection with the death of one Ayomide Michael.

Adegboruwa said the police had refused to release the American, who had been in custody for almost six weeks, despite the legal advice by the Lagos State Directorate of Public Prosecutions absolving R'ouke and three Nigerians of complicity in the death of Michael.

The American was said to have arrived in Nigeria on January 22, 2021 on the invitation of the late Michael.

She and Michael were said to have lodged in a hotel on Victoria Island on the same day, while Michael "became unconscious and lifeless" in the early hours of February 8.

R'ouke was making her way out of Nigeria on February 9 when she was picked up at the airport.

The police had submitted a case file to the Lagos DPP, seeking legal advice on the possibility of prosecuting R'ouke and three Nigerians for alleged murder.

But a certified true copy of the DPP legal advice sighted by our correspondent indicated that the Lagos State Director of Public Prosecutions, Mrs A. O. Adeyemi, on behalf of the state's Attorney General, Mr Moyosore Onigbanjo (SAN), advised against the prosecution of the American and other suspects, citing insufficient facts to sustain murder charges.

Portions of the DPP legal advice, dated March 5, 2021, read, "After a careful consideration of the facts contained in the duplicate case file, this Office is of the considered opinion that there are insufficient facts to establish a prima facie case of conspiracy to murder and murder, contrary to sections 233 and 223 of the Criminal Law Chapter C17, Vol 3, Laws of Lagos State, 2015.

"It is trite that the prosecution is duty-bound to prove all the ingredients of murder and the absence of any of the elements will be fatal to the prosecution's case.

"In the light of the above, this Office shall not prosecute the suspects."

According to the DPP's legal advice, the medical report indicated that Michael died of "acute cardiac failure and hypertensive heart disease."