

Six suspects arrested, nine kidnap victims rescued in Benue

20th June 2024



Sewuese Anene, Benue State Police PRO

By John Charles

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Six suspects have been arrested for kidnapping and fraud by the policemen in Benue State, *PUNCH Metro* learnt.

This was disclosed in a statement issued by the spokesperson for the state command, Catherine Anene, in Makurdi on Wednesday noting that nine kidnap victims were also rescued.

Anene said three of the arrested suspects were kidnappers and the other three were fraudsters.

The PPRO noted that the suspected kidnappers were responsible for the kidnap of some passengers of a Benue Links vehicle after killing the driver.

Part of the statement read, “On the 13/06/2024, at about 1700hrs, information was received that while a Benue Links vehicle was conveying passengers from Onitsha to Makurdi, gunmen suddenly emerged from a nearby forest around Ojano-Oglewu and shot sporadically at the vehicle, causing the vehicle to stop at the forest.

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“The driver of the said vehicle sustained gunshot injuries that led to his death while the passengers were kidnapped.

“During an investigation, nine suspects were rescued, while on June 17, 2024, three suspects, named Saleh Hassan ‘M’, Yakubu Alhaji Kande and Yunusa Idris, all of Keana LGA, Nasarawa State were trailed and arrested in connection with the case.”

The statement further disclosed that the two suspected fraudsters were arrested at Kigh village along Naka road on Monday while further investigation was going on.

“During the operation, one Philip Matthew ‘M’, 25 years; Haribu Jafai ‘M’ 27 years and John Ode Arubi ‘M’, 24 years, were arrested,” the statement further read.

The PPRO listed items recovered from the suspected fraudsters to include two iPhones, five laptops, different ATM cards and five 9mm live ammunition.