Chairman, Senate Committee on Information, Enyinaya Abaribe.

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Man kills step-mother in Ebonyi

FROM JEFF AMECHI AGBODO, Abakaliki

Magistrate Court sitting in Abakaliki, Ebonyi State yesterday remanded a 26-year-old man, Patrick Ojelegu, for allegedly killing his stepmother, Mrs. Nkwegu Ojelegu, at Mkpuma in Izzi Local Government Area of the state.

The accused person was said to have killed her step mother on November 15, 2013 by stabbing her with machete and thereby com-

mitted an offence punishable under Section 319(1) of the Criminal Code.

He was also charged for attempting to kill one Doris Ojelagu by stabbing her severally on her body and thereby committed an offence punishable under Section 320 of the Criminal Code.

The two-count charge preferred against the accused read in part: "That you Patrick Ojelegu (26) on November 15, 2013 at Mkpuma Izzi in Abakaliki Magisterial District did unlawfully kill one Nkwegu

Ojelegu 'f' under Section 319 (1) of the Criminal Code Cap. 33 Vol.1 Laws of Ebonyi State of Nigeria 2009.

"That you Patrick Ojelegu on the same date and place in the aforementioned Magisterial District did unlawfully attempt to kill one Doris Ojelegu 'f' by stabbing her severally on her body and thereby committed an offence punishable under Section 320 of the Criminal Code Cap 33 Vol.1 Laws of Ebonyi State Nigeria 2009."

The trial Magistrate Nnenna Onuoha after listening to the charges against the accused person, said the court lacked jurisdiction over the matter because the alleged offence was related to murder.

She, however, urged the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) to arraign the accused person before the appropriate court for trial.

The magistrate later adjourned the case to January 20, 2014 for the report of compliance, saying after 90 days without arraignment in the High Court the case would be quashed in the Magistrate Court.

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