## 13 feared killed in Anambra auto crash

From Obinna Odogwu, Awka

**ABOUT** 13 people, including a child, have been feared killed in a fatal accident which took place along the Okija axis of the Onitsha Owerri Expressway, in Ihiala Local Government Area of Anambra

It was not clear what caused the fatal crash, but voices in a video of the accident heaped blame on the policemen operating in that area, whom they accused of obstructing free flow of traffic in the sloped area of the expressway.

Meanwhile, the casualty figure has been faulted by the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in the state which said that only four persons died against the eyewitnesses' 13.

One of the voices in the video lamented thus: "Just imagine what the police officers have caused here. All these people died because of what the police have caused.

"We have taken over 11 people to the mortuary. Look at blood everywhere. Policemen were obstructing free flow of traffic here. And this place is not level.

"This accident just

killed more than 13 people now.

"We have rushed some to the hospital. Even little children were involved. Just imagine. Over 13 persons died here. Look at dead bodies. Some have been rushed to the mortuary. Look at what the police have caused," he lamented.

FRSC, in a statement, said that three vehicles were involved in the fatal crash which it said occurred at 15:06.

It listed the vehicles as Nissan Caravan (a white coloured commercial bus) with registration number AAH-836-ZV, another white-coloured commercial Nissan Caravan with number AWK-278-YD and a truck (Mack) with no registration number.

FRSC said that 16 people were involved in the road crash: seven male adults, seven female adults, one male child and one female child. It said that two male adults, one female adult and one male child lost their lives, while 12 were injured.

On the cause of the accident, FRSC said that it suspected excessive speeding and brake failure.

"It quoted an eyewitness in its statement as saying that "the driver of the trailer sighted the police checkpoint and rammed onto the two buses being checked by the policemen in front of him as a result of brake failure."

(Continued on www.sunnewsonline.com)

## #EndSARS report: SERAP sues E

**SOCIO**-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP) and 116 concerned Nigerians have filed a lawsuit asking the Federal High Court in Abuja to "direct and compel President Muhammadu Buhari take immediate steps to ensure the arrest of soldiers and police officers indicted by the Lagos #EndSARS panel report, for the shooting of peaceful protesters at the Lekki toll-gate and police brutality cases."

In the suit number FHC/ ABI/CS/1482/2021 filed last Friday, SERAP is also asking the court to "direct and compel president Buhari to bring to justice anyone suspected to be responsible for the shooting of peaceful protesters, and to ensure access to justice and effective remedies for victims, including adequate compensation."

SERAP said: "It is in the interest of justice to grant this application, as it would improve respect for Nigerians' rights, the rule of law, and public confidence in government institutions, as well as reduce the growing culture of impunity of perpetrators.