

Truck driver docked for alleged manslaughter

A 40-year-old truck driver, Joseph Salako, on Friday appeared before a Badagry Chief Magistrates' Court for allegedly driving recklessly and killing a 16-year-old girl.

Salako, whose address was not provided, is facing a two-count charge of manslaughter and reckless driving.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that he pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The prosecutor, ASP Edet Ekpo, told the court that the defendant committed the offences on July 19 at about 3.30 p.m. at Atura Bus Stop on the Lagos-Badagry Expressway.

Ekpo stated that the defendant drove a Volkswagen truck with registration number DED 975 XB in a dangerous manner, which resulted in the death of Miss Barakat Abdullahi.

He added that the defendant drove against traffic, showing no regard for other road users.

Ekpo stated that the offences contravened Sections 2 and 20 of the Road Traffic Act (RTA), Cap. 2012, Laws of Lagos State.

The Chief Magistrate, Mr Nurudeen Layeni, granted the defendant bail in the sum of two million naira with two sureties in like sum.

Layeni added that one of the sureties must be a community leader or a pastor residing within the court's jurisdiction.

He adjourned the case until August 29 for mention.