

Manslaughter: Two vigilantes bag six years imprisonment

April 14, 2017 Kunle Olayeni Abeokuta



An Ogun State High Court sitting in Abeokuta yesterday found two vigilantes guilty of manslaughter and sentenced them to six years imprisonment. Justice Olatokunbo Olopade, who delivered the judgement, sentenced Lambe Yinka and Friday Gbenga, to jail with hard labour, for killing two men in the course of duty. The convicts, who are officers of the Vigilante Group of Nigeria, were arraigned on April 27, 2015 on a twocount charge of murder and manslaughter.

armed robbery.

The duo had reportedly on July 7, 2013 shot two men, Raji Morufu and Akeem Usman, at Oriyanrin, Quarry Road in Abeokuta when they responded to a distress call in the neighbourhood over

The police said the offences contravened Sections 317 and 308 of the Criminal Code Law of Ogun State 2006. In her judgement, Olopade, who is also the state Chief Judge, said all the proof tendered convinced the court beyond reasonable doubt that the convicts committed the offence.

She said: “The deceased persons who were shot on their arm and leg were not armed robbers but members of the said house armed robbers came to. “The deceased were rushed by neighbours and the accused persons to the Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Idi-Aba, Abeokuta, where they received treatment and later died. “During the cause of trial and investigation, the two accused persons made a confessional statement that they shot one Raji Morufu and Akeem Usman mistakenly when one of them was trying to struggle with them.

“With all evidence tendered in court during trial, I found that the two accused persons had killed the deceased during the discharge of their duty and also they could not provide any of the robbers they claimed shot the gun on their arrival.