

## METRO AND CRIME

# Two die, scores injured in Ebonyi NASS primaries



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- **Zamfara: Five victims buried**

Two persons were feared dead yesterday while several others were injured at Onueke, the headquarters of Ebonyi Central Senatorial District when two factions clashed during the All Progressives Congress (APC) senatorial primary election.

This was as five victims of violence which dogged the APC governorship primary election in Zamfara State were buried yesterday.

Factions of the party had engaged in bloody clash over delegate lists from Ezza South and Ikwo local government areas of Ebonyi State.

Those involved were believed to be loyal to governorship candidate of the party in 2015 general elections, Sen. Julius Ucha, a House of Representatives aspirant in next year's general elections, Comrade Chinedu Ogah, the immediate past Secretary to the State Government (SSG), Prof Bernard Odoh, and former Minority Leader of the state

House of Assembly, Hon. Enyi C. Enyi.

The delegate lists from the two local governments out of the four local government areas of the central senatorial zone which were used for the just concluded governorship primaries were described as 'fake delegate lists' by the Odoh and Enyi factions.

Enyi had told reporters in Abakaliki on Wednesday that he would resist the contentious list as, according to him, he will not allow those who joined the party newly to high jack the party and dictate its affairs in the state.

Yesterday, there were heavy shootings at Onueke during National Assembly primaries which led to the death of a youth whose identity was yet to be ascertained when the warring factions clashed over the delegate lists.

It was learnt that one person was confirmed dead from bullet wounds he sustained while other seven people, including a policeman, were severely injured and were battling for life at an undisclosed hospital.

Governor Dave Umahi has expressed shock over the development.

Umahi, in a statement signed by his Chief Press Secretary, Emmanuel Uzor, ordered security agencies to investigate the killing and bring the perpetrators and their sponsors to book.

The governor warned all political actors in the opposition party to play by the rules and eschew politics of destruction and bitterness.

Meanwhile, the five people buried yesterday in Zamfara State, were killed after violence erupted at the polling centres during the botched election on Wednesday.

Hundreds of sympathisers, including the eight governorship aspirants led by the state Deputy Governor, Alhaji Ibrahim Wakkala Muhammad, known as Group 8, attended the funeral.

Dozens of people sustained various degrees of injury ranging from gunshot wounds and machete cuts during the election.

Some of the survivors were responding to treatment at different medical facilities across the state.