

# METRO

...CRIME, CITY WATCH, COURTS

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## Man remanded for allegedly killing 11-yr-old houseboy in Enugu

**A** Chief Magistrate's Court in Enugu East Magisterial District has remanded one Mr. Anthony Onyeukwu, over the death of an 11-year old houseboy Goodluck John.

This, the Enugu State Government said, was in line with its

sustained war against all forms of child abuse.

According to the Commissioner for Children, Gender Affairs and Social Development, Enugu, Mrs. Ngozi Enih, Mr. Onyeukwu, aged 47, was arrested following a tip-off from one of the Ministry's whis-

tle-blower channels that Master Goodluck John's death was linked to abuse in the hands of the family where he lived with as a houseboy.

However, Mr. Onyeukwu was said to have quickly conveyed and had the remains of the 11-year old boy buried in the boy's hometown

in Abia State without reporting his death to the appropriate authorities. Although he was said to have claimed that the boy had died from an ailment at the Park Lane Hospital, Enugu, there was no record to show that the boy was admitted in the hospital or that his corpse was deposited in the hospital's morgue.

Arraigning the suspect last week, the Police Prosecutor- Inspr Calista Ifeanyi, told the presiding Chief Administrative Magistrate, Ngozi Edeh Anih that Mr. Onyeukwu had committed an offence punishable under the Criminal Code (Revised) Laws of Enugu State.

The charge sheet marked: CME/631C/2024 read, "That you, Onyeukwu Anthony 'm' on 15th day of October, 2024, at about 20:30 hours at No. 4, Mike Onyeka Close, Loma Linda Extension, Maryland,

Enugu, within the jurisdiction of this honourable court, did unlawfully kill one Goodluck John 'm' aged 11 years and thereby committed an offence punishable under Section 274 (1) of the Criminal Code, CAP 30, Vol. II, Revised Laws of Enugu State of Nigeria, 2004."

The Chief Magistrate subsequently ordered the suspect's remand in the Correctional Centre, Enugu and, adjourned the matter to November 20, when the report from the Director of Public Prosecutions, Ministry of Justice, Enugu, is expected.

Meanwhile, the Office of the Wife of the Governor of Enugu State, Mrs. Nkechinyere Mbah, has warned against any form of child abuse in the state, as no such act would go unpunished.

Taiwo Jimoh

**A**fter months of intelligence gathering and painstaking surveillance, operatives of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), have smashed two major cross-border drug trafficking syndicates with cocaine and opioids worth billions of naira recovered from them while six leaders of the cartels were arrested in different parts of the country.

The syndicates, according to a statement by the Director, Media & Information, Mr. Paul Okeke,

## NDLEA smashes cross-border drug syndicates, arrests 6 kingpins, recovers cocaine, opioids

well as Cameroonians came under NDLEA radar after they were suspected of being major suppliers of drugs to terror groups operating in Nigeria and Cameroon.

Leaders of the syndicates so far arrested include: Ibrahim Bawuro, Najib Ibrahim, Ibrahim Umar, Nelson Udechukwu Anayo, Ezech Amaechi Martin and Adejumo Elijah Ishola. Intelligence gathered revealed that some psychoactive substances including tramadol were often sourced by

following day, October 8, while a total of 276,500 pills of tramadol were recovered from a Toyota Avensis saloon car marked DKA 57 TT, which they abandoned on the Jalingo-Yola Expressway when they noticed NDLEA operatives were on their trail.

Follow up operations, Babafemi said, were subsequently carried out in Delta and Anambra States where Ezech Amaechi Martin and Udechukwu Nelson Anayo were ar-

**Police bust car theft syndicate**