## Detention of Alleged Youth Murderer Heightens Tension in Edo

Adibe Emenyonu in Benin City

Youths and leaders of Ekiugbo community of Uhunwoode Local Government Area of Edo State, yesterday called on the police's high command in the state and Abuja to carry out a thorough investigation over the killing of one Ikpomwonsa Omoruyi, who was allegedly led by one Mr. Justin Omoruyi now said to be held by Special Weapon and Tactics, (SWAT) team of the police in Abuja.

The suspect was alleged to have committed the offence in company of others suspects now at large, which has heightened tension in the agrarian community of Ekiugbo and fueled fear of a breakdown of law and order in the area.

Members of the community has asked the Governor of Edo State, Mr.Godwin Obaseki to call to order his Senior Security Aide, Mr. Haruna Yusuf, who was accused of shielding the said suspects through the state

local vigilante service under his control.

However, Yusuf has denied any involvement in the incident, adding that he learnt that the shootout was caused by an APC chieftain that mobilised some fake vigilantes to the community.

He said: "I am too busy to have time for all that rubbish. The police in Edo and Abuja are handling the matter so anyone making any allegation is just wasting his time."

Nevertheless, leaders of the troubled community had engaged a lawyer, Mr. Douglas Ogbankwa, to petition the Edo State Commissioner of Police and Inspector General of Police.

Oghankwa, in the petition titled "Petition of Murder, Attempted Murder, Waging Communal War, Illegal Possession of Firearms, Cultism, Violence and Conduct Likely to Cause Breach of Peace," urged the police authority to bring the alleged culprit to book and protect the legal rights and safety of the inhabitants of Ekiugbo community.

ANTOTAL Coil and Makil