

Gunmen shoot commissioner nominee in A/Ibom

UYO—UNIDENTIFIED gunmen yesterday night shot a commissioner nominee in Akwa Ibom, Dr. Emem Wilcox.

It was gathered that Wilcox was returning home in Eket, when he was attacked by five persons suspected to be hired assassins.

He was said to have been shot three times on the chest and left in a pool of blood before he was rushed to a hospital by passers-by. The victim, who was slated to be the next State Health Commissioner, was billed for screening yesterday at the State House of Assembly.

Mr Moses Anebode, the Commissioner of Police in the state, who confirmed the incident to newsmen yesterday in Uyo, said a suspect had been arrested.

"As I am speaking to you now, he is still receiving treatment in a hospital, but we have started investigation into the incident. "We are sure that we will unravel those behind this act," Anebode said.

He said it was not civil for any person to take another person's life for any political reason.

Several protests have trailed Wilcox's nomination by Gov. Godswill Akpabio.

Stakeholders in his area allegedly claimed that his contributions toward the election of Akpabio was minimal.

Wilcox, a medical doctor by profession, was before his nomination, one of the Coordinators of the Akwa Ibom State Action Committee on AIDS.