

News

Gunmen kill ex-High Court judge, Immigration provost in Enugu, Imo

By Ikechukwu Odu

1 A former judge of Enugu State High Court, Justice Stanley Nnaji, and a Chief Provost of Nigerian Immigration Service, NIS, Okiemute Mrere, were killed by unknown gunmen in different attacks in Enugu and Imo states, weekend.

2 **1** It was gathered that the former judge from Isi-Uzo Local Government Area of Enugu State was shot severally beside the Enugu Diagnostics Centre, by Ebeano tunnel, after he was double-crossed and dragged out of his Mercedes Benz SUV.

Justice Nnaji was a judge of the Enugu State High Court until he was dismissed following his alleged role in the removal of Governor Chris Ngige, the then Governor of Anambra State in 2007 through a questionable ex-parte order.

Confirming the incident, the Commissioner of Police, Enugu State Command, Mohammed Aliyu, said he has ordered the launch of a full-scale manhunt for the yet-to-be-identified gunmen, who went away with the deceased's vehicle.

In a statement by the spokesperson of the Police Command, Daniel Ndukwe, the Commissioner stated that the victim was rushed to the hospital, where he was confirmed dead by doctors on duty and the remains deposited in the mortuary for autopsy.

3 In a related development, the remains of the chief provost of the Nigerian Immigration Service, NIS, in Imo State, Okiemute Mrere, reportedly killed Saturday, were found on Sunday.

It was gathered that the assailants of Mrere riddled his Toyota Hilux truck with bullets when he was intercepted along Owerri-Port Harcourt road, Owerri, the state capital.

A source said: "His corpse was discovered Sunday morning. Nothing was taken from him, not even his service pistol. His vehicle was riddled with bullet holes. The command is quiet. There is panic as officers are dumbfounded by this tragic development."

Confirming the incident, Winifred Oguh, the Imo Immigration command spokesperson, said a "full investigation" is underway to "get full details" on the incident.