

# #JusticeForPelumi

Pelumi Onifade was a 20-year old intern with Gboah TV, online television and a 200 level student of the Department of History, Tai-Solarin University of Education. He was arrested by officers attached to the Lagos State Task Force while covering the #EndSARS protests and later found dead at a mortuary in Ikorodu, where his body was deposited.

## Saturday, October 24, 2020

- ◉ Pelumi allegedly joined one of his colleagues to cover an attempted burglary by hoodlums at a government facility at Abattoir, Oko Oba area of Agege. Police officers, who were called to the scene, engaged the hoodlums with firearms, injuring a number of them, and arresting some.
- ◉ His colleague stated he was shot before he was dragged into the police van alongside others.

## Saturday, October 24 – 27, 2020

- ◉ Pelumi's family and colleagues searched for him in police stations and other parts of Lagos State without success.

## Tuesday, October 27, 2020

- ◉ Pelumi's family together with Gboah TV posted a missing person's announcement on various social media platforms.
- ◉ His family thereafter got a call from the Head, Lagos State Environmental Sanitation and Special Offences Unit (Task Force), CSP Olayinka Egbeyemi, who scheduled an appointment with them for **Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**, at their headquarters in Ikeja, Lagos to discuss the possibility of Pelumi being in police custody.

## Wednesday, October 28, 2020

- ◉ The police task force informed Pelumi's family and colleagues that they had arrested five people at Agege on **Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**, and one of those arrested is dead and his corpse is at a mortuary in Ikorodu.

## Thursday, October 29, 2020

- ◉ An appointment with the police task force was rescheduled to the next day.

## Wednesday, November 11, 2020

- ◉ Olumuyiwa Adejobi, a spokesperson for the Lagos State Police Command, told the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) via a text message that Pelumi's death had been reported to the Lagos Judicial Panel of Inquiry investigating allegations of police brutality and declined to comment further.

## Wednesday, August 4, 2021

- ◉ An originating summons filed by Mr. Charles Musa (SAN), on behalf of Media Rights Agenda (MRA), over the death of Pelumi against the Lagos State Commissioner of Police (COP), the Inspector-General of Police (IGP) and the Attorney-General of Lagos State.

## Thursday, August 6, 2024

- ◉ Justice Ayokunle Olayinka Faji of the Federal High Court in Lagos orders the Lagos State Government to ensure an investigation into the death of Mr. Pelumi Onifade. The Court also ordered the State Government to conduct a coroner's inquest to ascertain the cause of the death of Mr. Onifade as well as identify and prosecute those responsible.

## Thursday, August 22, 2024

- ◉ MRA, through its lawyers, wrote a letter addressed to the State's Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, urging the Government to "*comply with the directives of the honorable court so that justice would be seen to be done and hope given to the common man that there is still justice in the judicial system.*"

## Monday, September 2, 2024

- ◉ Lagos State government in response to the letter, assured that it was instructing the State Chief Coroner to initiate investigations into the death of Pelumi Onifade, in compliance with the court order.

## Tuesday, September 3, 2024

- ◉ Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) and International Press Institute (IPI) renewed their call on the Nigerian authorities to ensure the body of slain journalist Pelumi Onifade is released to his family and that those responsible for his death are identified and held to account.

## Thursday, October 17, 2024

- ◉ The judicial inquiry into the cause of death of Mr. Pelumi Onifade began in Lagos with the investigating magistrate promising a thorough and impartial investigation to uncover the truth, assign responsibility for his death, if necessary, and provide his family with closure.



We are working with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to ensure the pending #EndSARS Judicial Panel reports are made accessible to the public and implemented.