US arrests another Nigerian convict facing 20-year jail for rape

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Another Nigerian man, Theophilis Anwana, has been arrested by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement after being convicted of second-degree rape in Baltimore, Maryland.  
  
His arrest comes weeks after ICE apprehended another Nigerian, Abdulwaris Akinsanya, who had previously been convicted in a federal romance scam case and was facing fresh allegations of fraud and forgery.  
  
PUNCH Metro had earlier reported on July 28 that Akinsanya was arrested by ICE’s Dallas Enforcement and Removal Operations unit after he allegedly attempted to escape in a vehicle.  
  
Announcing Anwana’s arrest in a post on X.com on Saturday, obtained by PUNCH Metro on Sunday, the Baltimore field office of ICE disclosed that he had been sentenced to 20 years’ imprisonment in Bel Air and had been under a final order of removal since September 2021.  
  
“Another dangerous criminal, an illegal alien, is in custody thanks to the hard work of ICE @EROBaltimore officers,” the agency stated.  
  
It added, “Nigerian national Theophilis Anwana, who has been convicted of second-degree rape, was arrested on August 29. He has a final order of removal and will remain in ICE custody.”  
  
Anwana now joins other Nigerians recently arrested or convicted in the U.S.  
  
For instance, ERO Boston disclosed that it arrested a 45-year-old Nigerian sex offender (name not disclosed), convicted of indecent solicitation of a child in Rhode Island.  
  
He was apprehended on February 15, 2024, in Rumford, Rhode Island, as part of a national enforcement operation targeting unlawfully present sex offenders.  
  
Similarly, on July 5, 2025, PUNCH Metro reported that another Nigerian, Owolabi Adeyinka, was sentenced in New Orleans to two years and two months’ imprisonment for conspiracy to commit wire fraud.  
  
Commenting on such cases, ICE said in a post that the arrests serve as a warning.  
  
“Any criminal caught will be deported to their home country after serving jail terms,” the post read.