



# IMPACT E-NEWSLETTER

COVID 19 NEWS ON SECURITY, JUSTICE AND DEVELOPMENT

Vol. III Saturday, 2nd May, 2020 WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

## News Headlines

KANO MOBILE COURTS  
CONVICT 400 LOCKDOWN  
DEFAULTERS

PRISON CONTROLLER, STAFF,  
FIVE INMATES INJURED, TWO  
ESCAPE IN ANOTHER  
JAILBREAK IN DELTA

LAGOS COVID-19 TASKFORCE  
ARRESTS OVER 50 PARTYING  
YOUTHS

COVID-19: CHIEF JUDGE  
RELEASE FORTY-ONE  
INMATES FROM PRISON  
IN KOGI

EXECUTIVE PARDON : SIXTY  
EIGHT INMATES REGAINS  
FREEDOM IN AKWAIBOM

OYO CHIEF JUDGE RELEASES  
45 INMATES

GOVERNOR BALA MOHAMMED  
SIGNS EXECUTIVE ORDER 001  
ON COVID-19

GOVERNOR UZODIMMA  
RELEASES 36 PRISONERS,  
DIRECTS ACCELERATED TRIAL  
OF MINOR OFFENDERS

KANO CHIEF JUDGE ORDERS  
THE RELEASE OF DETAINEES  
IN CORRECTIONAL CENTRES

KANO NBA RAISES TEAM TO  
ENFORCE RIGHTS DURING  
LOCK-DOWN

ADAMAWA, IMO, PLATEAU  
GETS NEW POLICE  
COMMISSIONER



## KANO MOBILE COURTS CONVICT 400 LOCKDOWN DEFAULTERS



The Mobile Courts established by the Kano State Government, to enforce compliance with lockdown and stay -at -home order, have convicted over 400 defaulters in the past three days in the state. Mr Baba Jibo, the Public Relations officer, Kano State Judiciary, disclosed this to newsmen on Saturday 2nd May, 2020 in Kano. It will be recalled that President Muhammadu Buhari had, on April 27, 2020, ordered a 14-day total lockdown of the state, aimed at stemming the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Jibo said the mobile courts were established to try defaulters during the lockdown period and any other issues related to the order.

<https://www.today.ng/news/metro/kano-mobile-courts-convict-400-lockdown-defaulters-296139>

## **PRISON CONTROLLER, STAFF, FIVE INMATES INJURED, TWO ESCAPE IN ANOTHER JAILBREAK IN DELTA**



A day after a foiled attempted jailbreak at the Nigerian Correctional Service, Sapele, Delta State, two inmates reportedly escaped from the prison in another jailbreak early on Tuesday 28th April, 2020. Tribune Online reported that the image-maker of the Delta State Police Command, Onome Onovwakpoyeya, who confirmed the reports on Tuesday 28th April, 2020, said some officials of the prisons also sustained some injuries. "Yes, it is true. Two inmates escaped in the early hours of this morning and five others were injured while attempting to escape too and they have been hospitalized. The controller and one other prison staff were injured. Five other inmates, who also attempted to escape, were overpowered but got injured in the process and they are now receiving medical attention at the Sapele Central Hospital.

[https://tribuneonlineng.com/prison-controller-staff-five-inmates-injured-two-escape-in-another-jailbreak-in-delta/amp/?\\_\\_twitter\\_impression=true](https://tribuneonlineng.com/prison-controller-staff-five-inmates-injured-two-escape-in-another-jailbreak-in-delta/amp/?__twitter_impression=true)

## **LAGOS COVID-19 TASKFORCE ARRESTS OVER 50 PARTYING YOUTHS**

The Lagos State [COVID-19](#) Taskforce, on Wednesday 29th April, 2020, arrested more than 50 youths who had attended a party at 84, Parks and Gardens, Idi-Oparun Bus Stop, opposite Abattoir at Abule Egba, Lagos, in violation of the lockdown directives of the federal and state governments.



The General Manager, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) and leader of the Taskforce, Mrs. Dolapo Fasawe, warned that it was no longer business as usual in the state and anyone who disobeyed government directive will be made to face the repercussions.

<https://reliablesourceng.com/lagos-covid-19-taskforce-arrests-over-50-partying-youths/>

## **COVID-19: CHIEF JUDGE RELEASE FORTY-ONE INMATES FROM PRISON IN KOGI**

The Chief Judge of Kogi State, Justice Nasiru Ajanah has released a total number of forty-one inmates from all the six correctional centres in Kogi State to avoid the spread of COVID-19 as directed by the federal government and state government. On Monday 27th April, 2020, a total of thirty-five inmates regained their freedom from Koton-Karfi, Kabba and Okene correctional centres.

However, on Tuesday 28th April, 2020, six inmates regain freedom from Ankpa, Dekina and Idah correctional centres in Kogi East after Justice Ajanah reviewed their cases

<https://tribuneonlineng.com/covid-19-chief-judge-release-forty-one-inmates-from-prison-in-kogi/>



## **EXECUTIVE PARDON : SIXTY EIGHT INMATES REGAINS FREEDOM IN AKWAIBOM**

In line with president Muhammadu Buhari's directive for all the states within the federation to release inmates that met certain conditions, the Akwa Ibom authorities has granted pardon to sixty eight (68) inmates within the custody of the Nigerian correctional service in Akwa Ibom State. Governor Emmanuel who was represented by the Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Barr. Uwemedimo Nwoko advised the inmates to be of good behaviour and shun acts that will take them back to prison as they will not have a second chance should they find themselves within acts of criminality. The Governor said the freed inmates were those that had spent years within the Correctional Centres and had developed serious health issues. Also considered were inmates on grounds of old age while those with minor offense were equally considered.



<https://ibomchroniclle.blogspot.com/2020/04/executive-pardon-sixty-eight-inmates.html?m=1>

## **OYO CHIEF JUDGE RELEASES 45 INMATES**

The Chief Judge of Oyo State, Justice Munta Abimbola, on Tuesday 28th April, 2020, released 45 inmates from the Agodi Correctional Centre in Ibadan and Abolongo Custodial Centres of the Nigerian Correctional Service in the state. The inmates were granted mercy and were released after the Monitoring Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice Law in the state carefully considered some factors that included the need to decongest the correctional centres, the security challenges in the state, rights of the inmates and prevention of spread of COVID-19.



The released inmates comprised those who were on awaiting trial list, inmates that had spent six years and above, sick convicted inmates, sick but awaiting trial inmates and awaiting trial inmates with minor and bail able offences, as well as those whose cases had been suspended for a long time because prosecution witnesses refused to show up to testify.

<https://www.today.ng/news/nigeria/oyo-chief-judge-releases-45-inmates-295041>

## **Governor Bala Mohammed Signs Executive Order 001 On Covid-19**

His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Bauchi state, Sen. Bala A. Mohammed has signed into law, an Executive Order 001 on COVID-19 in the state. The order tagged " Bauchi State Infectious Disease Prevention Regulations" covers the COVID-19 partial lockdown and the State Infectious Disease Prevention Regulations. Special Mobile Court has been set up to ensure the enforcement of the order while penalties for the offenders of the order have also been designed. Under the order signed by the governor, penalties for offenders are as follows: Violators of the partial lockdown to pay N5,000, those on essential services to use face masks or to pay N5,000, Achaba operators to pay N5,000 if caught, Violators of social distancing to pay N5,000, Keke Napep without observing social distancing, N10,000, Vehicles, N20,000, Vehicles coming from other states to pay N20,000 and Trucks to pay N30,000. Governor Bala Mohammed at the singing in ceremony announced the arrest of over 100 passengers who arrived Bauchi state from high risk states of COVID-19 virus.

## **GOVERNOR UZODIMMA RELEASES 36 PRISONERS, DIRECTS ACCELERATED TRIAL OF MINOR OFFENDERS**



Governor Hope Uzodinma has released 36 prisoners as part of efforts to decongest the prison following the threat of COVID 19. The Governor has also directed the Acting Chief Judge of the State, Justice Ijeoma Aguguo to immediately commence, the accelerated trial and release of inmates who are on awaiting trial on minor charges or allegations. The Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Declan Emelumba who disclosed this said the government also directed that the prison trials must, observe all COVID 19 safety measures, including wearing of face masks and social distancing. The prisoners who benefitted in the release are; those who are serving 3 years with less than 6 months to go, Convicts who have spent up to 25% of their prison term and minor offenders with 3 to 6 months imprisonment. The governor advised the released prisoners to reciprocate government's gesture by not returning to crime.

## **KANO CHIEF JUDGE ORDERS THE RELEASE OF DETAINEES IN CORRECTIONAL CENTRES**

The Chief Judge of Kano State, Justice Nura Sagir has ordered immediate release of minor offenders detained in major and satellites correctional centres across the state. The CJ directed Chief Magistrates to commence court sittings inside the correctional centres. Reports indicated that last Thursday 30th April, 2020, six Chief Magistrates held their court sessions inside the Kurmawa major correctional facility, and admitted 24 defendants into bail, while discharging five awaiting trials inmate. The spokesman, Kano State judiciary, Baba Jibo Ibrahim said six Chief Magistrates are expected to sit next week to further look into cases that are compoundable. He said the CJ has directed the immediate and total decongestion of the entire major and satellites correctional facilities existing in the state.



<https://judicialsketch.com/2020/05/01/kano-chief-judge-orders-release-of-detainees-in-correctional-centres/>

## **KANO NBA RAISES TEAM TO ENFORCE RIGHTS DURING LOCK-DOWN**

The Kano branch of the Nigeria Bar Association (NBA) has deployed a team of lawyers to render free legal services to indigent persons and enforce peoples' rights throughout the period of the lockdown in the state. Judicial Sketch reported that the team comprising of about 30 lawyers is mandated to offer pro-bono services to people that come in conflict with the law.

Chairman of the branch, Abdul Adamu Fagge, informed Judicial Sketch that the team of pro-bono lawyers led by the chairman of the branch's human rights committee, Abdulrahman Mukthar, is expected to monitor the activities of the mobile courts set up to punish those who violate the lockdown order in the state



<https://judicialsketch.com/2020/05/01/kano-nba-raises-team-to-enforce-rights-during-lock-down/>

## **ADAMAWA, IMO, PLATEAU GETS NEW POLICE COMMISSIONER**

The Inspector General of Police, (IGP) Mohammed Adamu, has ordered the posting of Adamawa, Imo and Plateau states Commissioner of Police. This was made known in a statement on Tuesday 28th April, 2020 by Frank Mba, Force Public Relations Officer. According to the statement, the postings are as follows: Adamawa State, CP Olugbenga Adeyanju; Imo State, CP Isaac Olutayo Akinmoyede, FCID, FHQ, Abuja, CP Audu Adamu Madaki; Plateau State, CP Edward Chuka Egbuka. While enjoining the citizens of the affected States to accord the CPs maximum support and cooperation, the IGP charged the newly posted officers to ensure that they effectively consolidate and improve on the performances of their predecessors. The IGP said the postings are with immediate effect.



<https://globalsentinelng.com/2020/04/29/adamawa-imo-plateau-gets-new-police-commissioner/>

## **COVID-19: NBA YOLA HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING COMPONENT VISITS CHECKPOINTS, MOBILE COURTS, POLICE STATIONS AIMED AT HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION**

In response to the growing legal needs of citizens arising from the coronavirus (COVID-19), the executive members of the Nigerian Bar Association, Yola branch on Wednesday, 28th of April, 2020, visited six checkpoints within Jimeta in Yola, Adamawa State, to monitor the compliance with the provisions of the Administration of Criminal Justice Law, 2015. "The NBA monitoring visit to the checkpoints was to ensure that suspected defaulters of the lock down order are given their right to counsel. The mobile court Magistrate, Daniel John convicted more than 30 defendants including one Professor Boyi Emmanuel with the Modibbo Adama University, Yola



<https://loyalnigerianlawyer.com/covid-19-nba-yola-human-rights-monitoring-component-visits-checkpoints-mobile-courts-police-stations-aimed-at-human-rights-protection/>

## **COVID-19: POLICE ARREST 986 VIOLATORS OF KADUNA QUARANTINE ORDER**

The police in Kaduna State have arrested 986 people for violating the Quarantine Order of the state government aimed at curtailing the spread of the coronavirus pandemic. Among the suspects are 48 religious leaders and beer parlour operators who are facing charges for disobedience at the various mobile courts across the state. Parading the arrested persons in his office, the Commissioner of Police, Umar Muri, said the enforcement of the lockdown and social distancing directive has become imperative in order to curb the spread of COVID-19.

<https://www.channelstv.com/2020/04/29/covid-19-police-arrest-986-violators-of-kaduna-quarantine-order/amp/>



Reported By:  
Muhammed Dahiru Usman  
Chioma Anuna - Ogbo