



The Inspector General of Police  
The Force Headquarters  
Louis Edet House,  
Area 11 Garki  
Abuja



Dear Sir,

**DEMAND FOR URGENT INTERVENTION AND INTERROGATION OF THE  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AT THE NIGERIAN POLICE TRAINING COLLEGE,  
IKEJA, LAGOS, FAVOUR CHINONYEREM**

I write the above subject matter on behalf of the Human and Environmental Development Agenda (HEDA Resource Centre). We are an organization with the mandate to protect and promote universally recognized human rights, accountability, and environmental justice in Nigeria and Africa, following international standards.

The above subject matter is premised on the report published by Premium Times<sup>1</sup> on the 16th of June, 2020. The report covers allegations of extortion of over 183 students and receipt of unofficial funds to the tune of N8.23 Million by Ms. Favour Chinonyerem. According to the report, the director allegedly demanded the sum of N45,000 each from the students of the 2018/2019 academic session without the knowledge of the police department. It was also conveyed in the report that the director has refused the students from graduating due to their alleged inability to pay the sum of N5,000 each for the repairs of damaged property at the college. According to the report, the director has been involved in similar acts in the past which reportedly led to her punishment by the management of the Nigerian Police Force.

The above allegations bring to light allegations of official corruption, extortion and abuse of office as entrenched in the Criminal Code Act. **Section 98B** of the Code deals with official corruption states that;

(1) *Any person who:*

(a) *corruptly asks for, receives or obtains any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person; or*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/397778-at-nigeria-police-college-cadets-accuse-top-officer-of-extortion.html>



*(b) corruptly agrees or attempts to receive or obtain any property or benefit of any kind for himself or any other person, on account of:*

*(i) anything already done or omitted, or any favour or disfavour already shown to any person, by a public official (as defined in section 98D of this Code) in the discharge of his official duties or in relation to any matter connected with the functions, affairs or business of a government department, public body or other organisation or institution in which the public official is serving as such; or*

*(ii) anything to be afterwards done or omitted, or any favour or disfavour to be afterwards shown to any person, by a public official in the discharge of his official duties or in relation to any such matter as aforesaid, is guilty of the felony of official corruption and is liable to imprisonment for seven years.*

*(2) In any proceedings for an offence under this section of this Code it shall not be necessary to prove:*

*(a) that any public official counselled the commission of the offence; or*

*(b) that in the course of committing the offence the accused mentioned any particular public official; or*

*(c) that (in a case to which subsection (i) (ii) of this section is relevant) the accused believed that any public official would do, make or show the act, omission, favour or disfavour in question; or*

*(d) that the accused intended to give the property or benefit in question, or any part thereof to a public official.*

Section 99 of the Code deals with extortion by a public officer and it states that any person who, being employed in the public service, takes, or accepts from any person, for the performance of his duty as such officer, any reward beyond his proper pay and emoluments, or any promise of such reward, is guilty of a felony and is liable to imprisonment for three years.

Official corruption and extortion both amount to abuse of office which is captured in Section 104 of the Code and it is stated that any person who, being employed in the public service, does or directs to be done in abuse of the authority of his office, any arbitrary act prejudicial to the rights of another, is guilty of a misdemeanor and is liable to imprisonment for two years. The section as further states that if the act is done or directed to be done for purposes of gain, he is guilty of a felony, and is liable to imprisonment for three years.



We strongly believe the media report in relation to the allegations levelled against the above-named officer is within the relayed provisions of the law. Also, in the wake of the attributions of extortion, corruption and abuse of office to the Nigeria Police Force, this petition is a wakeup call to the realities battling the Force and the need for proper sanctification. It is in this vein that we write this petition with the aim of awakening the powers as encapsulated in the Police Act. The Police Act vests in the Nigeria Police Force the following but not limited to; the protection of lives and properties, investigations of allegations to a logical conclusion.

These above allegations require immediate investigation and the need for attribution of immediate urgency to ensure that the allegation is investigated in the eyes of the law with the aim that justice is seen to be done at large in promoting the sanctity of the rule of law. This allegation is one of which poses threats to the wellbeing of the Nigeria Police Force and its personnel and the cure is in the mandate of the force as it is criminal in nature and within the purview of the powers of the Nigeria Police Force to ensure that an investigation is carried out and an eventual prosecution of the offenders if found guilty.


It is against this backdrop that we demand the following;

1. The immediate investigation of the extortion, corruption and abuse of office allegations against the Director of Music at The Nigerian Police Training College, Ikeja, Lagos, Favour Chinonyerem.
2. Prosecution of the suspect if the allegations are proven beyond reasonable doubt
3. Protection of the whistleblower officers from reprisal and victimization of the suspect and or her sympathisers/collaborators

We hereby implore you to use your good offices to ensure that this matter is effectively and painstakingly investigated to ensure justice is done to all and sundry involved and found culpable, in the spirit of upholding the rule of law and stemming the culture of impunity in the society. In essence, serving as a deterrent to future likely perpetrators of similar heinous crimes.

While thanking you in anticipation of your response, accept our best regards.

Yours faithfully,

  
f Olanrewaju Suraju  
Chairman