

EC officials arrested over election cases

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MPIGI. Police in Mpigi District are holding four Electoral Commission (EC) officials over election-related cases.

The suspects, who include two presiding officers and two polling assistants, were picked from Bukabi N-Z Polling Station in Kamengo Sub-county and Nakirebe A-Z Polling Station in Kiringente Sub-county on Wednesday during local council elections.

According to Mr Ahmed Kimera, the Mpigi District police commander, three of the polling officials, with the help of Musa Parish EC supervisor, attempted to aid three people to vote at Bukabi N-Z Polling Station where they are not registered voters.

"The parish supervisor who is still at large stormed the polling station with pre-ticked ballots and ordered his juniors who were manning the station to leave. When they resisted, a fight ensued and residents attempted to lynch them," he said.

Mr Kimera said another presiding officer also escaped being lynched by angry voters at Nakirebe village after signing declaration forms without the consent of candidates' agents. According to Mr Kimera, the suspect told the agents to sign the forms before tallying of votes, which they rejected. "He instead did it himself and later locked the forms in one of the boxes where they keep election materials," Mr Kimera added.

Mr Kimera said police investigations indicate that the suspect was attempting to rig the election in favour of one of the councillors for Kiringente Sub-county. "Residents attempted to kill him, but he was saved by our officers and soldiers who were patrolling the area," he added.