

City Beats

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Corps member killed in crossfire during Abuja robbery

GUARDS BRIGADE



A **National Youth Service Corps** (NYSC) member, Abdulsamad Jamiu, was on Saturday morning killed during exchange of gunfire between troops of the Guards Brigade and suspected armed robbers at Shagari Estate, Dei-Dei, Abuja.

The Guards Brigade Headquarters confirmed the incident in a statement yesterday, saying troops of its Quick Response Group (QRG) responded to a distress call from residents following an armed robbery in the area when they encountered the fleeing suspects.

A statement by Acting Assistant Director Army Public Relations, Lt. Olawuyi Odunola, said the troops came under gunfire on arrival at the scene, leading to a "brief but intense exchange" with the attackers.

"In the course of the engagement, Mr. Jamiu was caught in the crossfire. Despite efforts by troops to secure the area and preserve lives, he sadly succumbed to his injuries," Odunola said.

The Brigade described the incident as a tragic loss that has affected its personnel, noting that the security situation at the time was "fluid and highly volatile" as soldiers worked to repel the attackers, and protect residents of the community.

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Commiserating with the deceased Corps member's loved ones, the Brigade said it has initiated a probe into the incident.

“The Brigade has since initiated a thorough investigation to fully ascertain the circumstances surrounding the incident. We remain committed to transparency and accountability and findings will be made available in due course,” the statement said.

The remains of the deceased have been deposited at Kubwa General Hospital and handed over to the appropriate civil authorities.

The Guards Brigade reaffirmed its commitment to protecting lives and property within the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), assuring residents that operational procedures would continue to be reviewed to enhance civilian safety while confronting criminal elements.

It also urged members of the public to remain calm and cooperate with security agencies to sustain peace and security in the area.