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Enugu police foil kidnap attempt, kill two suspects, recover AK-47, ammunition



The Enugu State Police Command has foiled a kidnapping attempt and neutralised two suspected criminals in separate operations.

The police also recovered an AK-47 rifle, two other firearms, ammunition and other incriminating exhibits.

The command said the operations were part of its sustained offensive against violent crimes across the state.

In a statement issued by the Police Public Relations Officer, SP Daniel Ndukwe, police operatives attached to the Trans-Ekulu Division, working with members of the Neighbourhood Watch Group, thwarted an attempted abduction along the Nowas–Abakpa Road axis of Enugu on May 30, 2026.

According to the statement, the operatives responded to information received at about 8:30 p.m. that a gang of about five armed men was attempting to kidnap an individual in the area.

“Police operatives attached to the Command’s Trans-Ekulu Division, in collaboration with members of the Neighbourhood Watch Group, swiftly responded and encountered the suspects, who opened fire on them. The operatives responded with precision and fatally immobilised one of the suspects, while others escaped with varying degrees of gunshot injuries,” the statement said.

The police disclosed that the suspect was taken to a hospital where he was confirmed dead by a doctor.

Items recovered from the suspect included an AK-47 rifle, two magazines loaded with 30 rounds of live 7.62mm ammunition and two mobile phones.

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The command added that intelligence-led operations by the Anti-Kidnapping Sub-Unit of its Violent Crime Response Unit later led to the recovery of a Beretta pistol linked to the gang.

In a separate operation on the same day at about 9:19 p.m., police operatives attached to the Amechi-Idodo Division, alongside members of the Neighbourhood Watch Group, responded to a distress call that armed robbers had invaded a residence in Owo Community, Nkanu East Local Government Area.

The police said the suspects were robbing the occupant of his personal belongings when security operatives arrived at the scene.

“Upon sighting the operatives, the criminal suspects opened fire on the team. The operatives responded and neutralised one of the suspects, while others fled with varying degrees of gunshot injuries,” the statement added.

A locally fabricated double-barrelled pistol loaded with one live cartridge was recovered from the deceased suspect.

The command said efforts had been intensified to track down the fleeing suspects and recover additional exhibits, while investigations into both incidents were ongoing.

The commissioner of police in Enugu State, Mamman Bitrus Giwa, commended the operatives and members of the Neighbourhood Watch Group for what he described as their bravery, professionalism and prompt response.

He reiterated the command's commitment to protecting lives and property and urged residents to continue providing credible and timely information to security agencies to enhance public safety.