

# New Year tragedy: Osun teenager dies in swimming pool

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File photo: Osun State map

By Bola Bamigbola

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A teenager, whose name has not been confirmed, has died inside a swimming pool in a hotel in Owode-Ede, Osun State, leading to violent reactions from displeased friends and family of the deceased.

*Saturday PUNCH* learnt the deceased died inside the pool of the hotel, located along Osogbo-Gbongan Road, on Thursday.

The circumstances surrounding the death of the teenager were, however, unclear at the time of filing this report.

It was learnt that on Friday, some people believed to be displeased with the manner in which the hotel handled the incident stormed the premises and staged a protest.

Sources close to the hotel, however, said timely intervention by the police and officers of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps prevented the situation from escalating into a bigger crisis.

“The death was recorded in the hotel on January 1st. The deceased, a teenager (name withheld), died in the swimming pool of the hotel. He was confirmed dead.

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“But on Friday, some people displeased with the manner the hotel management handled the situation stormed the premises and staged a serious protest.

“Police and NSCDC later intervened, and the matter was resolved,” an eyewitness said during an interview with *Saturday PUNCH*.

When contacted on Friday, the Acting Police Public Relations Officer, Osun Command, Emmanuel Giwa-Alade, confirmed the incident.

He said, “It wasn’t a mob action. It was the family of the victim that went back there to express their grievances, and when they got there, the whole thing was later settled amicably. The victim died inside the hotel swimming pool.”

On what the police were doing regarding the incident, Giwa-Alade said investigations had commenced.

“Investigation is being carried out. We are on the matter, and whatever we find out, we will let the public know,” Giwa-Alade said.