

Woman flees after phone repairer dies in Bayelsa hotel

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The Bayelsa State Police Command has launched an investigation after a 40-year-old phone repairer, identified simply as Felix, was found dead in a guest house in Yenagoa, while the woman who reportedly checked in with him disappeared before his body was discovered.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the deceased, said to be from Cross River State, had checked into Diko Guest House along Azikoro Road in the Ekeki area of Yenagoa with an unidentified woman on Wednesday night.

His naked body was, however, discovered in the room on Thursday morning after a cleaner reportedly raised the alarm.

Our correspondent learnt from sources in the hotel who craved anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the incident that the woman was said to have disappeared before the discovery.

PUNCH Metro learnt that the incident attracted traders and residents to the nearby Seriake Dickson Shopping Complex, where the deceased operated a phone repair shop.

Eyewitnesses told our correspondent that sachets of alcoholic drinks were found on a bedside table in the room, while police officers later evacuated the body.

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A trader at the shopping complex, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said, “We were shocked when we heard that Felix had died in the hotel. He left with a woman, but only his body was found in the room the following morning.”

It was learnt that the police arrested the owner of the guest house and the cleaner who discovered the body to aid investigations.

The deceased's younger brother, Dennis, was also briefly detained after he was found with Felix's mobile phone but was later released after explaining that a Pay Charge operator had handed the phone to him when the whereabouts of the deceased became uncertain.

Confirming the incident on Thursday, the spokesperson for the Bayelsa State Police Command, DSP Musa Mohammed, said preliminary investigations had commenced.

“We have commenced a preliminary investigation into the incident,” he stated.

The command noted that efforts were ongoing to establish the cause of death and identify the woman who reportedly checked into the guest house with the deceased before his death.