

crushed to death at Abaji

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Men and officers of the Abaji unit command of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) were on Saturday thrown into mourning after one of their officers, Mr. Yunusa Chado, was crushed to death by a motorist near Army checkpoint in Abaji, on the Abuja-Lokoja expressway.

An FRSC officer at the command, who craved anonymity, said the incident happened around 2:12 p.m. when

an unmarked over-speeding Toyota Camry car ran over him during a patrol with his colleagues.

He said the deceased was trying to stop a speedy commuter bus, which failed to stop and the officer had to run for his life but knocked down by the Camry car in the process.

"When he jumped to avoid being knocked by the bus, an over speeding Toyota Camry car coming from the opposite direction ran over him," he said.

He said the officer was taken

to St. Peter Catholic Hospital at Abaji, before he was referred on that Saturday night to Allied Surgery Clinic at Gwagwalada, where he gave up around 2 a.m. on Sunday.

"The driver of the vehicle was immediately handed over to the police, while his vehicle was also taken to the police station," he said.

When contacted, Abaji unit commander of the FRSC, Assistant Corps Commander, Moses Audu, confirmed the death of the officer, saying the

deceased had been taken to his home town Bida in Niger State for burial.

"The officer had been buried and the driver was with the police. The deceased family had ordered that the driver be released," he said.

The Abaji Divisional Police Officer (DPO), Mr. Ogungbemi Igbekele, could not be reached for comment, but a police officer at the station confirmed the arrest of the driver, but said he has been released following the request of the deceased family.

also said there was more deployment of corps officials during the period to ensure a more aggressive patrol and monitoring of motorist along the road.

He, however, maintained that more of such success stories can be achieved when motorists observe traffic rules, including speed limits and over-loading.

"If only the drivers can maintain speed limits, avoid making calls while driving and over-loading, we can achieve a crash-free road by the year 2020," he said.