

LASTMA refutes allegation of crushing pregnant woman to death

By Benjamin Alade

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LASTMA

Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has refuted allegations that its officers crushed a pregnant woman to death in Ikeja area of the state.

Director, Public Affairs and Enlightenment Department, LASTMA, Adebayo Taofiq, in a statement, said the story by an online medium was not the true position of what transpired, yesterday, at MRS Filling Station on Kodesoh road, Ikeja.

According to him, preliminary investigation revealed that a mini commercial bus (Korope) driver upon sighting a LASTMA patrol van in front of MRS Filling Station queuing for fuel, drove dangerously and a passenger sitting by the door, which was not closed fell down from the Korope, and was immediately rushed to Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LASUTH) for medical treatment due to minor injuries she sustained.

He said investigation further revealed that the woman was not dead as reported but only sustained minor injuries, which had been treated at LASUTH, and she was finally discharged.

“The statement that a pregnant woman was crushed to death by a LASTMA Van during a Korope chase was not true as she was confirmed not to be pregnant before being discharged from LASUTH with her husband.

“The matter was immediately reported at Area ‘F’ Divisional Police Station for further investigation.

“Consequently, the Management of LASTMA enjoined all commercial bus operators to always ensure safety of their passengers by having their vehicle door closed while on motion as enshrined in the Lagos State Transport Sector Reform (2018),” he added.