

Two children critically injured, pregnant woman, tricyclist die in Lagos auto crash

By Eniola Daniel and Albert Uba

TRAGEDY struck in the early hours of yesterday after a commercial bus collided with a tricycle, killing all occupants including the driver in Ago Palace Way, Okota area of Lagos.

Sources told *The Guardian* that some officials of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) were pursuing the bus for alleged traffic offence, when it skidded off the road and rammed into a commercial tricycle, killing the occupants on the spot.

An eyewitness said an official of LASTMA was actually in the bus warning the driver to stop, adding that the driver refused. In motion, both driver and LASTMA started struggling to gain control of the steering, and eventually ran over the tricycle.

"I was watching the bus and it was going at top speed while a LASTMA man was inside arguing with the driver. Suddenly, they started dragging the steering wheel, while the bus was still in motion. It

LASTMA arrests trailer driver for knocking down barrier



Accident scene

eventually collided with a commercial tricycle occupied by a pregnant woman, who was taking her two children to school, and another passenger. The four of them, including the driver, died on the spot," he said.

Efforts to speak with the Director, Public Affairs Enlightenment Department, Taofiq Adebayo, on the matter was not successful.

In a statement on its X page, LASTMA wrote, "Operatives of the Lagos State Traffic Manage-

ment Authority (LASTMA) disclosed that a driver apprehended for driving in a direction prohibited by Law (One-way) today killed a tricycle operator, pregnant woman and injured two school children around Okota axis of the State.

"Traffic Officer Hassan Kehinde of Zone 27, Okota who led the LASTMA patrol team disclosed that a driver of a blue Toyota Sienna bus (AKD 944 HN) was apprehended for driving against traffic (One-way) around Ago Palace Way, Lagos.

"He disclosed further that a Police man attached with the patrol team volunteered to escort the apprehended vehicle to LASTMA office for proper booking.

"On their way, and in an attempt by the driver to escape, he diverted into Bayo Oyewale Street by Ago round-about and rammed into a fully loaded tricycle"

"While the tricycle operator died instantly, the pregnant

woman later died at the Hospital while the two injured School Children were currently under the Intensive Care Unit receiving medical attention."

Speaking with *The Guardian* on the incident, Lagos State

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Benjamin Hundeyin said: "The police officer was only attached to the LASTMA team for protection. The pregnant woman and the tricyclist died while the children were hospitalised.

FG launches investigation into death of 'one chance' victim in Maitama hospital

THE Federal Government is to investigate alleged negligence and refusal by Maitama General Hospital to treat a victim of 'one chance' robbery, Miss Greatness Olorunfemi, till she died. Minister of Women Affairs, Mrs Uju Kennedy-Ohanenye, made this known while addressing newsmen in Abuja. Olorunfemi was on September 26, reportedly pushed out of a moving vehicle by one chance criminals, who usually rob unsuspecting passengers of their valuables. She was reported to have sustained injuries and was rushed to the hospital for medical treatment but was not attended to due to lack of

police report, and later died. The minister said if found culpable, serious action will be taken against the management of the hospital, to serve as a deterrent to other hospitals and staff, who refuse to treat emergency cases for reasons best known to them. "Investigation has begun, and all those responsible for any negligence will be held accountable for their actions," the minister said. While decrying the spates of attacks and insecurity in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), which had resulted in loss of lives, properties, among others, she encouraged citizens to assist in addressing the menace.

Pastor dies in Benue church collapse



... driver for stealing employer's car