## Police investigate killing of okada rider in Rivers State

By Obinna Nwaoku, Port Harcourt

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CP Bala Mustapha

The Rivers State Police Command has launched an investigation into the killing of a commercial motorcycle rider, popularly known as okada, by suspected armed robbers on Sunday night in Ahoada town, Ahoada East Local Council.

The victim, identified only as Innocent, was reportedly attacked along Civil Defence Road by three gunmen who pretended to be passengers. Eyewitnesses revealed that the suspects flagged down the motorcycle rider under the guise of boarding his bike but turned violent when their true intentions were discovered. Innocent resisted their attempts, leading to his being shot by the assailants, who fled the scene with his motorcycle.

The Guardian learnt that the victim was rushed to a nearby hospital by family members but succumbed to his injuries a few hours later. The incident was reported to the Ahoada Police Division, prompting an official investigation.

Confirming the incident, the Public Relations Officer of the Rivers State Police Command, Superintendent of Police Grace Iringe Koko, assured the public that the police were working to uncover the perpetrators and bring them to justice. She promised to provide further updates, although none were available at press time.

The killing adds to a growing number of attacks in the area, underscoring the urgent need for improved security measures to safeguard lives and properties in the region.