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•Mr. Ogunjemulusi, the state Commissioner of Police

## Police, motorcyclists clash in Ogun

👤 Posted by: [Ernest Nwokolo, Abeokuta](#) 📁 in News 🕒 1 min ago

Commercial activities at the Abeokuta Central Business District (CBD), Oke-Ilewo, were disrupted yesterday, following a clash between the police and hundreds of protesting commercial motorcyclists.

Banks, eateries, telephone booths and scores of businesses operating at the CBD hurriedly closed, as the angry commercial motorcyclists vandalised property, attacking policemen and residents.

The operators, who blocked the Lalubu Road, Oke-Ilewo, with scores of motorcycles, were protesting the killing of a man, who they thought was their colleague, by a bullion van.

The bullion van driver was said to be recklessly negotiating the OPIC circle within the CBD when the accident occurred.

The Nation gathered that motorcyclists and sympathisers were appalled by the alleged "callous attitude" of the policemen attached to the van, who were said to have dragged the body of the victim from under the van, dumped it in a gutter and sped off.

The protest, which caught many motorists and visitors unaware, caused a gridlock that spanned over five hours. Some vehicles trapped in the troubled district were vandalised.

A combined team of soldiers and policemen drafted to the area laboured to contain the protesters with "minimal force", shooting canisters of teargas to disperse them.

The driver was arrested and his bullion van impounded; over 70 motorcycles used to block the road were

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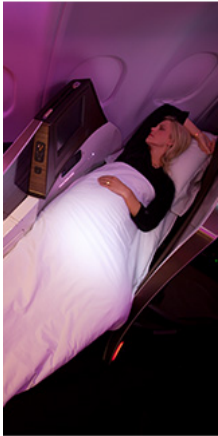
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April 2011 and September  
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also impounded.

An eyewitness said the 22-year-old victim was a carpenter, adding that he rode his brother's motorcycle to Oke-Ilewo to buy a memory card.

He said the motorcyclists mistook him for one of them and went on the rampage.

Police spokesman Olumuyiwa Adejobi said the driver and some protesters had been arrested.

Adejobi said: "A bullion van driver attached to a new generation bank hit a motorcyclist. Sympathisers started protesting and attacking policemen. They vandalised vehicles and attacked residents too.

"The protesters took the law into their hands, hauling stones and other objects at police officers. We have to apply minimum force to disperse them to evacuate the body. We arrested the driver and impounded the van.

"The driver is not a policeman and we will ensure that justice is served. We heard that the people were angered because the policemen attached to the bullion van dragged the motorcyclist from under the bullion van and dumped him in a gutter.

"We don't encourage callousness or impunity in the police and we are going to look into that allegation critically.

"We are advising the public to shun jungle justice as you cannot correct one misdeed with another misdemeanour."

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