

Tragedy as Area Commander drowns in hotel pool

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Ekpo

The Lagos State Command of the Nigeria Police on Sunday recorded a painful loss of a senior officer, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Osung Ekpo.

Ekpo who was the Area K Commander, Morogbo drowned on Sunday night in a swimming pool located inside La Avalon Hotel in Lekki.

He was said to have gone there with some of his friends to celebrate Valentine's Day but died in mysterious circumstance.

Renowned for his doggedness in tackling criminals, particularly the alleged One Million Boys who had unleashed mayhem on communities under his command, he was said to have been rushed to a nearby hospital in Ajah, where he was confirmed dead.

Although the exact time he drowned could not be ascertained, it was learnt that the Area J police command received the signal at about 8pm and rushed to the hotel.

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After he was confirmed dead, The Nation gathered that his body was deposited at a military hospital in the Island.

It was further learnt that Ekpo had visited another senior colleague of his about three hours before his death.

The news of his death however left many police officers in sad mood especially the Divisional Police Officers who worked under him.

One of the DPOs who does not want his name mentioned told The Nation that Ekpo was a friendly and humble man, who had strong passion for his job.

He stated that the deceased ACP has hardly rested since the rumour of activities of the One Million Boys started.

"He went to celebrate Valentine and to also rest because he has been working very hard. He was a very jovial man and a good police officer too. This is a terrible loss. It is the worst valentine gift the police can get," he said.

However, the state command's spokesperson, Dolapo Badmos, an SP, who confirmed his death, said

Ekpo went to the hotel for a swimming exercise.

She said: “The Lagos State Police Command regrets to announce the death of Assistant Commissioner of Police, ACP Osung Ekpo, who until his death was the Area Commander, Area ‘K’ Morogbo.

“The death occurred on Sunday, February 14, while having his routine swimming exercise in a Pool. ACP Osung Ekpo was enlisted into the Nigeria Police Force in the year 1990, and worked in various formations of the Force.

“He assumed his last duty post as Area Commander, Area ‘K’ Morogbo on November 14, 2013, a position he held until his untimely death.

“The Command will miss him for his gallantry performance while he held forth as the Area Commander. Lagos State Police Command sympathizes with his family and prays that Almighty God give them the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss. “

A gallant officer, Ekpo had served at various units and Divisions of the police.

He was DPO of several police stations in Lagos.

He also served at the Nigeria Police Special Fraud Unit (SFU), Ikoyi, Lagos before he was promoted to the rank of an Assistant Commissioner of police and posted to the North.

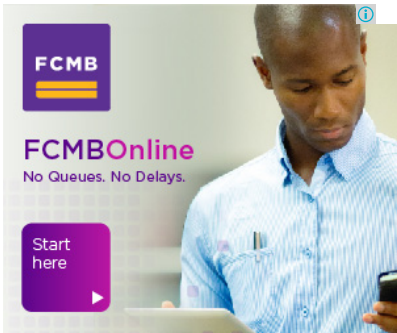
He was however transferred to Lagos and made the Area K Commander.

His posting to that command was triggered by the growing rate of smuggling activities.

He was said to have dared the smugglers and decimated them during the period he spent there.

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