

Footballer accidentally shot dead by policeman in Niger

Adelowo Oladipo | Minna

SPOKESPERSON for the Niger State police command, SP Wasiu Abiodun, has confirmed the death of a young footballer in the state.

Abiodun confirmed the incident while speaking with the **Nigerian Tribune** on phone on Tuesday, adding that investigation was already ongoing into the case.

It was gathered that the footballer, identified as Sani, lost his life following an accidental discharge from the gun of a yet-to-be identified policeman, at Angwan-Kaje area of Maitumbi in Minna, within Chanchaga Local Government Area of Niger State.

It was alleged that the said policeman was under the influence of alcohol when he manhandled his fire-arm recklessly on Monday,

which then fired and led to the death of Sani.

Community members have, however, described the deceased as a peaceful young man with no affiliations to criminal groups.

"We knew him. He was not arrogant and he did not belong to any 'Yan Daba' group. He was a good person," a local resident said.

Meanwhile, the state Commissioner of Police, Shawulu Ebenezer Danmmaman, has directed the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Maitumbi Division to conduct thorough investigation to identify those responsible for the incident.

The police boss assured that further updates would be made available to members of the public in the course of investigation into the killing.