Gunmen kill bank customer opposite Imo govt house

Chidiebube Okeoma, Owerri

RAGEDY struck on Thursday in Owerri, the Imo State capital, when gunmen, suspected to be armed robbers, shot dead a bank customer, a few meters away from the state government house.

The deceased, eyewitnesses said, was shot dead by the armed men when he allegedly refused to hand over the money he withdrew from a bank close to the scene of the crime.

The spokesperson for the police in the state, Andrew Enwerem, who confirmed the death of the victim to our correspondent on the telephone, said the deceased, whose identity had yet to be known, had finished a transaction at a branch of Guaranty Trust Bank on Cathedral Road in the state capital, before he met his untimely death.

The police spokesperson added that after coming out of the bank, the victim noticed that some strange faces were trailing him and he quickly jumped into a Toyota Camry being driven by a woman he didn't know.

Enwerem said, "The gunmen quickly chased the car and eventually caught up with it as a result of a traffic jam close to the state government house. They opened the car, shot him and took away the bag he was carrying, which apparently contained a huge sum of money."

He added that the police immediately removed the victim from the road and took him to the Federal Medical Centre, Owerri, where he was confirmed dead.

Enwerem noted that a manhunt for the killers had started.