

Late Rivers musician's family demands DPO's prosecution

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Daniel

Dennis Naku, Port Harcourt

The family of the 20-year-old music artiste, Daniel Ikeaguchi, popularly known as Sleek, who was shot dead by a policeman at Elemenwo, near Port Harcourt, Rivers State, last Saturday, is demanding justice.

Daniel and his friend, Reuben, were being chased by operatives of the Special Anti-Robbery Squad when a riot policeman, identified as Sergeant Isaiah Ben, attached to a supermarket in Elemenwo, on hearing the SARS operatives calling them thieves, opened fire on them.

The family specifically called for the prosecution of the Divisional Police Officer of the Elemenwo Police Station.

The elder sister of the late musician, Maureen, alleged that the nonchalant attitude of the DPO led to the death of her brother.

She also accused the DPO of depositing her brother's corpse in the mortuary of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital with false information, including a fake address and fake date of birth.

Maureen also accused the DPO of concealing the true information from her father when he went to the station to find out what happened to his son, not knowing that Daniel had been killed, adding that the police officer should be held responsible for the way he handled the incident, including his failure to notify the family of the victim of the incident.

She stated, "I want justice for my brother. I want the DPO, who could not call his family member and who ordered his men not to allow my father inside. My father was crying like a child and begging.

"They could not tell my father that they had killed his son. I want the DPO held responsible. At the UPTH mortuary, where they dumped my brother, they told me that it was the DPO, who brought my brother.

"He gave a fake address. He gave a fake date of birth and he gave a fake cause of death."

Meanwhile, the state police command has said five of its personnel allegedly involved in the killing Daniel have been detained at the State Criminal and Investigation Department.

The spokesman for the command, Nnamdi Omoni, disclosed this in a statement titled: 'Incident report', issued in Port Harcourt on Tuesday.

The statement read in part, "On September 19, 2020, around 2.30pm, the leader of the Anti-Kidnapping Unit on patrol along Elelenwo took one Daniel Ikeaguchi and Sergeant Isaiah Ben attached to 35 PMF Jigawa, but on guard duty at an estate in Elelenwo, who allegedly shot the deceased, to the Elelenwo Police Station.

"On the receipt of the report, the DPO, CSP Chima Nnaji, immediately ordered that the boy, who was bleeding, be taken to hospital, but he eventually died and his corpse was deposited in the UPTH mortuary.

“The DPO, after his preliminary investigation, transferred the sergeant and the four policemen from the Anti-Kidnapping Unit to the state CID for further investigation. They are still being interrogated.”