

Gov aspirant escapes death as one killed in Benue crash

John Charles 14 December 2021

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A gubernatorial aspirant and former Chief of Staff to the Benue State Governor, Terwase Orbunde, on Monday narrowly escaped death.

Sources said Orbunde's vehicle was involved in a crash at Uchi village along the Makurdi/Gboko Road.

Orbunde was the chief of staff to Governor Samuel Ortom before he resigned his appointment in September to pursue his governorship aspiration.

It was gathered that a Picnic commercial vehicle coming from the opposite direction was overtaking another vehicle when he ran into the SUV in which the governorship aspirant was travelling in.

A local publisher, Babs Usigbe, who ran into the scene of the accident, said Orbunde suffered a minor head injury.

Orbunde was said to be returning from a defection ceremony in Gboko around 5pm when the crash occurred.

Usigbe stated, “I was on my way from Katsina Ala to Gboko and back to Makurdi when I ran into the accident scene.

“A Picnic commercial vehicle, which was coming from Makurdi, was overtaking another vehicle on a straight road, but instead of the driver returning to his lane, he faced the vehicle in which the governorship aspirant was and while his driver was trying to avoid a head-on collision, the Picnic driver hit the vehicle and the SUV hit a tree.

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“Orbunde suffered a minor head injury, but one of the passengers in the commercial vehicle died on the spot, while eight other passengers were seriously injured.”

The eyewitness said that the governorship aspirant, his driver and the injured persons were quickly rushed to an undisclosed hospital.

Confirming the accident, the Sector Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps, Benue State, Yakubu Mohammed, said one person died in the crash and added that he had yet to get the full details.

“It is true there was an auto crash but I’m yet to get the full details of the accident, but I can confirm that one person died,” Mohammed said.

Efforts to get the governorship aspirant’s media aide, Tahav Agerzua, were not successful as his telephone rang out.

