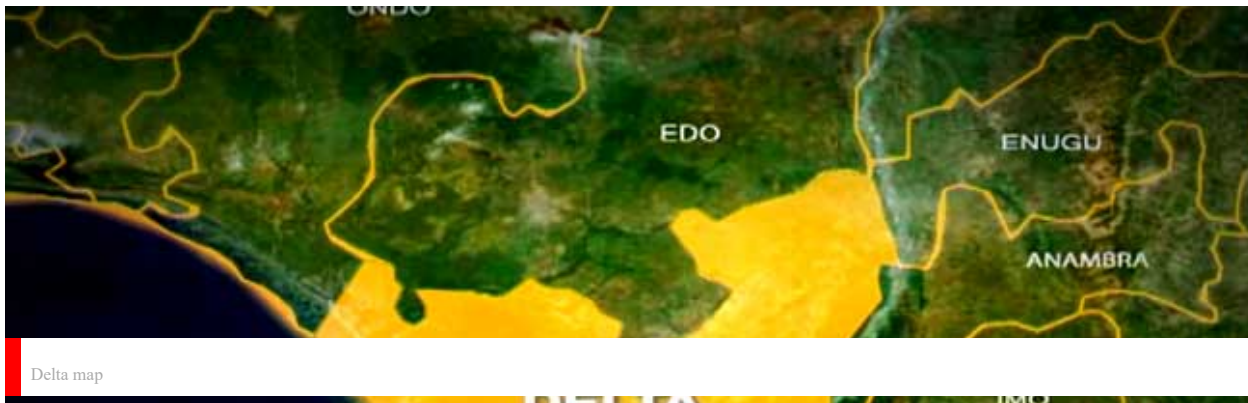


# Delta police kill suspected kidnapper, rescue victim

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By Dele Ogunyemi

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Operatives of the Delta State Police Command have killed a suspected kidnapper in Abraka in Ethiope East Local Government Area, while a victim of the kidnapping syndicate was rescued unharmed.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the operatives of Abraka police station, led by the Divisional Police Officer, SP Fabian Ayameh, while on routine patrol along Campus III Road Abraka, at 9:09 pm on Sunday were alerted of a kidnap incident at a filling station in the town by a gang of four armed men operating in a silver coloured Lexus SUV with reg. no. KSF 315 HF.

Consequently, the team swiftly mobilised and went on the trail of the kidnappers.

It was gathered that the suspects on noticing that the policemen were closing in on them, fired gunshots as they tried to escape, while the police responded with fire.

Confirming the incident, the police Public Relations Officer for Delta State Command, DSP Bright Edafe, stated that due to the superior firepower of the policemen, the operational vehicle of the suspects was successfully demobilised, which made the hoodlums abandon the victim and took to their heels in different directions.

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But the combat-ready policemen engaged the hoodlums in a gun duel and successfully neutralised one of them, arrested another with gunshot injuries, while two others escaped.

The police spokesman affirmed that one AK47 rifle with breech no. 06571 without a magazine was recovered from the suspects just as the manhunt for the other fleeing suspect is ongoing.

Meanwhile, the rescued victim who was earlier kidnapped at the filling station has since been reunited with his family, according to the police.

The Commissioner of Police Delta State, CP Wale Abass, while commending the DPO Abraka and his men for their courage and achievement, admonished them to sustain the tempo.

The police boss assured Deltans that the command will continue to sustain peace and security in the state.