

# Police kill two suspected kidnappers, rescue victim in Delta

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Delta State Police Public Relations Officer, DSP Bright Edefe

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The Delta State Police Command has said it killed two suspected kidnappers in a gun duel and rescued the victim in Ekpan area of the state.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, DSP Bright Edefe stated while speaking with *PUNCH Metro* on Tuesday in Asaba.

He said, “In an intelligence-driven operation conducted by the Ekpan Divisional Police Officer, CSP Aliyu Shaba, on the directive of the Commissioner of Police, CP Wale Abass, has successfully rescued a kidnapped victim.

“The team also recovered the victim’s vehicle, and three firearms, including two single barrel and one double barrel guns, with two expended cartridges.

“On December 30, 2023, a 23-year-old male (name withheld) parked his Black-colored GLK 350 Benz SUV along Jakpa Road leaving his brother (named withheld) inside the vehicle as he went about other activities.

“The owner was alerted that the vehicle was attacked by three armed men who carried the vehicle with his brother in it, driving off to an unknown destination.

“Upon receipt of this information, the Commissioner of Police directed the DPO Ekpan CSP Aliyu Shaba to mobilize operatives and ensure that the victim was rescued and the suspects arrested and brought to book.

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“The DPO in compliance with the CP’s directive led a surveillance team attached to Ekpan division for the operation.

“The team proceeded to a bush at Ekakpamre, Ughelli-South LGA, where the kidnappers engaged a serious gun duel with the police.

“In the process, two of the kidnappers were fatally injured, while one of them escaped with gunshot injuries. The kidnapped victim was rescued unhurt”

Edafe said items including two single-barrel and one double-barrel gun with two expended cartridges were recovered, alongside the vehicle.

He said the two injured suspects were taken to the hospital where they were certified dead by the doctor on duty, saying that efforts are on to arrest the injured suspect who escaped.

According to Edafe, Police Commissioner, CP Wale Abass lauded officers and men of the Command for their tireless efforts in ensuring that the year 2023 was a success security-wise, but reminded them that the reward for hard work is more work hence the need for them to up their strategies in the fight against crime and criminality in 2024.