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## Delta Police kill suspected kidnapper, recover weapons

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## By Dele Ogunyemi

A suspected kidnapper has been killed along Ughelli-Patani Road in Delta State by operatives of the State Police Command on special assignment to the Ughelli axis.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Bright Edafe, in a signed statement made available to journalists in Warri on Friday, disclosed that the hoodlum was neutralised during a sting operation by the police team.

According to the statement, "The police team led by Julius Robinson, acting on credible intelligence related to incessant cases of armed robbery/kidnapping along the Adjekota-Ogor communities' axis of Ughelli North Local Government Area, at about 23:47 hours of June 20, 2024, stormed a criminal hideout, by an abandoned filling station, along the Ughelli-Patani Road.

"But the hoodlums on sighting the police, opened fire on the operatives.



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However, the police team instantly gave a superior response and in the ensuing gun duel, one of the hoodlums sustained serious gunshot injuries which prompted others to flee in different directions and escape.

"The police took the injured suspect to a nearby hospital where he died while receiving treatment. The police spokesman stated that two Baretta pistols and five rounds of live ammunition were recovered from the hoodlums while a manhunt for the fleeing suspects is ongoing."

In another development, the statement noted on June 19, 2024, about the special operatives deployed by the Commissioner of Police to Ughelli axis, stormed another criminal hideout in Sapele and arrested four suspects.

Meanwhile, the state Commissioner of Police, Olufemi Abaniwonda, urged youths to "shun all forms of cult-related activities, and crime as the Command is able and willing to tackle and reduce crime to the barest minimum in the state."