

We're not responsible for body found hanging on tree – LASTMA

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Bakare-Oki Olalekan

| By Naomi Chima

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The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority has said its operatives were not responsible for the dead body found hanging by the gate of an estate along the Lagos-Sagamu Expressway.

The LASTMA General Manager, Mr Olalekan Bakare-Oki, disclosed this in a statement by Mr Taofiq Adebayo, the agency's Director, Public Affairs and Enlightenment Department, on Friday.

Bakare-Oki debunked the rumours circulating on social media, insinuating that the deceased's vehicle was impounded by the officers of the agency.

He confirmed that the body was discovered early hours of Thursday by passersby and was immediately reported to the police at Shagamu Road.

“Several speculations were made by sympathisers present at the scene. Some said he was dressed like a motorcyclist (okada rider), while some speculated he was a tricyclist (Marwa rider).



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“Some even believed he was brought to the scene by his killers during the wee hours of midnight, and stage managed it, to give it the semblance of suicide because the victim's leg was touching ground.

“For brevity, no one could really identify him as either an okada or Marwa rider from amongst several operators of okada and Marwa who visited the scene.

“It is unfortunate that the incident occurred by an estate gate along Lagos-Shagamu Expressway,” Bakare-Oki said.

While expressing sympathy to the deceased family, he warned those spreading unfounded reports to verify information before disseminating it.

“Meanwhile, the body of the deceased has been evacuated by the State Environmental Health Monitoring Unit, Yaba, Lagos,” he added.

Naomi Chima

Naomi was trained in the Yaba College of Technology, Yaba, and the University of Lagos, Akoka. She writes crime and court stories for PUNCH Bios for The PUNCH reporters