

Police hunt killers of Anambra lawyer, client after court session

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| By Ikenna Obianeri

The Anambra State Police Command has launched a manhunt after some yet-to-be-identified assailants shot dead a lawyer and his client after a court session in a boundary community near Agulu and Nanka communities in the Orumba North Local Government Area of the state.

According to eyewitnesses in the area, who pleaded anonymity because they did not have the permission to speak to the media, the attackers carried out the brutal killings without facing any opposition at the boundary between Nanka and Agulu, along the popular Amawbia-Agulu-Nanka-Ekwulobia-Uga-Akokwa road on Thursday.

The spokesman for the state police command, SP Tochukwu Ikenga, who confirmed the killings, said the state Commissioner of Police, Ikioye Orutugu, alongside some senior police officers, had visited the scene of the incident, after which he ordered a full investigation into the matter.

Although the circumstances surrounding the gruesome murder remain unclear, it was gathered that the lawyer was in court with his client in the morning, but was killed a moment later after he and his client were trailed from the court after the session.

Police. Photo Credit: Elliot Ovadjie

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One of the locals in the area, who refused to identify himself, said, “The case the lawyer was handling for the client was very big.”

The incident happened at the boundary between Nanka and Agulu, along the popular Amawbia-Agulu-Nanka-Ekwulobia-Uga-Akokwa road in the early hours of Thursday.

“The assailants trailed the victims with a motorcycle and double-crossed them along the popular Amawbia-Agulu-Nanka-Ekwulobia-Uga-Akokwa road, after which they first shot and killed the lawyer, before shooting his client, who came out of the car and was running for safety. The assailants immediately left the scene of the incident.”

Ikenga also disclosed that a red Toyota Camry vehicle, believed to belong to one of the deceased, was recovered from the scene, while their bodies had been deposited at the morgue.

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He said, “The CP on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at about 11: 30am, led a team of senior officers—including the Deputy Commissioner of Police in charge of Operations and experienced detectives from the command—on a visit to the crime scene at Egbebelu village, Nanka, Orumba North Local Government Area, where two persons were gruesomely murdered by yet-to-be-identified armed men operating on a motorcycle.

“The visit follows a reported incident involving the murder of two individuals, one of whom has been identified as a legal practitioner who had earlier secured the bail of an accused person in a pending murder case at High Court II, Ekwulobia.

“Preliminary investigations suggest that the victims were attacked while returning from the court session, having been trailed and double-crossed by the assailants.

“One of the victims survived the attack and is currently receiving medical treatment at a hospital. The escapee has been debriefed by the police and has provided crucial information that is aiding ongoing investigations and manhunt operations.

“The bodies of the deceased have been recovered and positively identified by their respective families. In the course of the preliminary investigations, a red Toyota Camry vehicle, believed to belong to one of the deceased, was recovered from the scene.”

According to him, the CP has ordered an intensive investigation into the incident and deployed tactical and intelligence teams to track down the perpetrators and ensure justice is served.