

One-Way driver flees after killing tricyclist in Lagos crash

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The accident scene at Origan, Oko-Afo area of Lagos... PHOTO: LASTMA

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A commercial tricycle rider has died after a head-on collision with a Sports Utility Vehicle reportedly driving against traffic in the Origan, Oko-Afo area of Lagos State.

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority said the incident occurred along the Badagry Expressway corridor over the weekend.

According to a statement released on Sunday by LASTMA spokesperson Adebayo Taofiq, the SUV driver, whose vehicle bore a customised number plate “OSUNFNKE,” was fleeing traffic congestion by taking a one-way route from Ile-Epo towards Oko-Afo when he collided with the oncoming tricycle with the registration number MUS 716 QM.

Taofiq confirmed that the tricyclist sustained severe injuries, including a critical knee dislocation, and died at the scene.

He said, “The grievous accident involved a commercial tricycle bearing registration number MUS 716 QM and a Mercedes-Benz 4MATIC Sports Utility Vehicle with the customized license plate ‘OSUNFNKE.’

“Preliminary intelligence gathered from the scene indicates that the SUV operator was driving in contravention of established traffic protocols, willfully navigating against the legally designated flow of traffic, colloquially known as ‘One-Way’—from Ile-Epo towards Oko-Afo.

“The tricycle operator sustained multiple traumatic injuries, including a critical knee dislocation, and was confirmed dead at the scene.”

Taofiq also noted that the SUV driver fled the scene immediately after the crash, leaving behind the vehicle and the deceased victim.

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“In a shocking act of cowardice and moral negligence, the SUV driver fled the scene immediately, abandoning both his vehicle and the lifeless body of his victim,” he said.

LASTMA officials reportedly arrived promptly at the scene, secured the area, and escalated the case to officers from the Morogbo Division of the Nigeria Police Force.

It was stated that personnel from the Federal Road Safety Corps also assisted by conveying the deceased’s remains to the mortuary at the General Hospital in Badagry.

According to Taofiq, LASTMA operatives towed both the damaged tricycle and the SUV from the road to restore normal traffic flow.

He noted that the vehicles were also handed over to the police for further investigation and possible prosecution.

Reacting to the development in the statement, the General Manager of LASTMA, Mr. Olalekan Bakare-Oki, condemned the incident, calling it a direct violation of public safety.

“This lamentable loss of life is an unfortunate testament to the deadly ramifications of impunity on our roads,” he said.

Bakare-Oki described the driver’s actions as “a blatant affront to public safety and an egregious violation of the Lagos State Transport Sector Reform Law of 2018.”