

# Cultists kill policeman, vigilante member in Rivers

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Spokesperson, Rivers State Police Command, Grace Iringe-Koko

| By Dennis Naku

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Some suspected cultists have killed a policeman and a member of a vigilante group in Ahoada East Local Government Area of Rivers State on Monday night.

PUNCH Online gathered that the shooting is a result of the recent physical assault on the Administrator of the Ahoada East LG, Good luck Iheanachor, who was manhandled by some hoodlums last Friday.

Recall that the hoodlums numbering about 30 had stormed the council where they beat up Iheanachor, carted away some documents in his office, seized his mobile phone, and forced him to sign a letter of resignation placed in front of him.

Iheanachor is one of the Administrators appointed for the 23 LGAs of the state by the Sole Administrator, Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ibas (retd.) to oversee the affairs of the various councils.

Following the incident, the police summoned the Chief Security Officer of the LG and the Council Chief of Staff for questioning, accusing the duo of leading the hoodlums to pummel the administrator.

Our correspondent gathered that the two operatives shot dead were pro-idiot security at the LG secretariat following last Friday's attack on the council before the miscreants who rode on motorcycles stormed the area.

The spokesperson of the State Police Command, Grace Iringe-Koko, in a statement on Tuesday, confirmed the killing of the duo.

Iringe-Koko, in the statement sent to newsmen, said members of a dreaded cultist group, Iceland, stormed the office of the vigilante outfit called OSPAC, an acronym for the Onelga Security Peace Advisory Committee, and opened fire on its operatives.

She said following the shooting, the vigilante was killed, adding that the hoodlums also shot dead a Police Corporal who was on special duty at the Ahoada East LG secretariat.

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The statement partly read, “The Rivers State Police Command condemns the brutal attack carried out by suspected cultists on June 23, 2025, at about 8 pm.

“Armed assailants, led by two men, Umegbewe Kingsley a.k.a. ‘Gutam’ and one Opaka (surname unknown), believed to be leaders of the Iceland cult group, stormed the OSPAC office beside the Ahoada East Council Secretariat and opened fire on its operatives.

“During the assault, OSPAC operative, Ngozi Ipah was shot.

“While escaping, the assailants also gunned down a police officer, Corporal Francis Friday, who was on special duty at the secretariat with the Special Intervention Squad.”

Iringe-Koko said the operatives of the police responded swiftly, as patrol teams led by the Divisional Police Officer arrived at the scene, but the attackers had already fled.

She said the victims were rushed to the hospital but were confirmed dead, and their bodies have been deposited into the hospital.

“Both victims were rushed to the Ahoada General Hospital with multiple gunshot wounds but were pronounced dead on arrival.

“Their bodies have been deposited at the hospital morgue for autopsy,” Iringe-Koko concluded.