

Gunmen kill 2 traffic officers in Port Harcourt

From TONY JOHN, Port Harcourt

The Rivers State Road Traffic Management Authority (TIMARIV) has petitioned the State Commissioner of Police, Mr. Hosea Karma, over the alleged killing of its personnel on duty by armed men.

The Acting Controller of TIMARIV, Mr. Confidence Eke, decried the repeated killing of the agency's personnel in the state, pointing out that two of his men were shot dead by gunmen within a week.

Eke gave the names of the two officers killed by armed men as John Dimkpa and Precious Pepple.

He disclosed that Dimkpa was killed by gunmen at the Wimpey/Ikwerre Road checkpoint in Port Harcourt on March 26, 2015, while the second victim, Pepple, was shot dead by yet-to-be-identified gunmen, while on duty at Amadi-Ama in the state capital.

TIMARIV boss, had in the petition addressed to Karma stated: "On Thursday, March 26, 2015, at about 15.02hrs, one officer, John Dimkpa, posted to Wimpey/Ikwerre Road checkpoint for traffic duties, was shot dead by unknown persons.

"The case was promptly reported at the Kala Police Divisional Headquarters. Also, on Wednesday, April 1, 2015, at the Amadi-Ama Area of the City, one officer, Precious Pepple, was equally killed by unknown persons.

"It is against this background that we write to seek your intervention by carrying out an indebt investigation into these killings and also ensure adequate protection of our officers. These measures will go a long way in boosting confidence of our officers in carrying out their duties."

Eke explained that TIMARIV was established by law to control traffic, maintaining that the agency had been performing the job effectively.

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