Armed robber shot dead in police, gunmen duel

From **Femi Folaranmi,**
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A SUSPECTED armed robber has been shot dead in a gun duel with members of the anti-robbery squad of the Bayelsa State Police Command.

According to investigations, armed robbers had stormed Goodnews Street in Azikoro and commenced operations when the anti-robbery squad arrived and engaged them in a gun duel.

Sources said one of the residents in the area made a distress call to the emergency number of the Bayelsa Police Command and the police team was sent to the area immediately. A witness said on sighting the policemen, the five-man robbery gang opened fire on them and the officers replied, killing one of the armed robbers, while others escaped with bullet wounds. The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr. Asinim Butswat who confirmed the development said the police were on the trail of the other members of the gang.

"On Saturday, September 1, 2018, at about 1245 hours, police operatives from Azikoro Division responded to a distress call of armed robbery around Azikoro Health Centre. On sighting the policemen, the five-man robbery gang engaged the police in a shout-out. In the exchange of gunfire, one of the armed robbers was shot and killed, and a locally made revolver was recovered from him. The corpse has been deposited at the Federal Medical Center, Yenagoa. Investigation is ongoing. Efforts have been intensified to arrest the fleeing suspects. The command is poised to rid the state of criminal elements. Members of the public should assist the police with useful information to ensure a safer Bayelsa," he said.