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## Deputy Speaker Ganagana's brother, two others killed in Ughelli, Delta State

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On **4 April**, unknown gunmen shot and killed Mr Sixtus Ganagana, 31-year-old younger brother of the Deputy Speaker of the [Delta State](#) House of Assembly, Mr. Basil Ganagana, in [Ughelli](#), Delta State. The late Sixtus Ganagana, an employee of the Delta State Oil Producing Areas Development Commission ([DESOPADEC](#)) and married with two children, was killed in his house, near the Ughelli Township Stadium, at night.

According to local sources, the assailants numbering about four came in a red Mercedes Benz 190 car, marked AH 255 BMA. Members of the local vigilance team in the area said as soon as they heard the shooting of Sixtus, they immediately mobilised against the suspected assassins and engaged them in a gun duel.

In the crossfire between them and the assailants, they said, the driver of the assailants' car was shot, lost control of the vehicle and rammed it into a stationary Toyota Camry car. He reportedly died. The other gunmen were said to have fled with bullet wounds, abandoning their vehicle at the scene of the confrontation. However, the local vigilante also report that one of their members was killed in the shootout while another suffered bullet injuries.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Delta State Police Command, Mr Charles Murka, has confirmed the incident to newsmen. He, however, said it was a team of police officers that intercepted the suspected assassins while they were escaping, and that he was "not aware of any member of the local vigilante being shot dead or injured".

Reacting to the killing, the Deputy Speaker described his younger brother's death as a rude shock. Speaking through his media aide, Mr Patrick Edema, he said the attack was the handiwork of his political opponents, and was targeted at him "with a view to weakening my political power base". He said the incident was also "an introduction of a negative phenomenon into the politics of Patani Local Government" and urged security agents to spare no effort in tracking down the assassins.

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