

Uchenna Inya

In Ebonyi State, it was a black weekend in Abakaliki metropolis following attack on policemen by gunmen at a checkpoint on Egugwu/Nwofe/Agbaja road. The attack left at least, three policemen dead and many civilians injured.

Though the state police command said two policemen died in the attack while one was critically injured and receiving treatment in the hospital, sources told Sunday Telegraph that 12 persons were killed in the incident while many sustained varying degrees of injuries.

The incident occurred on Friday.

In a video circulating on social media, three policemen were seen lying dead in a pool of their blood with a white police Hilux van and a Sienna bus while passers-by and other road users are seen scampering

Ebonyi: 12 feared killed in gunmen attack

for safety.

A woman's voice I heard crying and saying "they have killed my husband."

There is a police checkpoint located in front of a gas station on the road where the incident occurred.

The incident occurred on a road leading to Governor Francis Nwifuru's place.

A resident of the area, Engr. Fidelis Ogoto said "tragedy struck the city of Abakaliki in the early hours of Friday, 17th November, 2023 as a group of unknown gunmen launched a deadly attack on the Police officers at a Police Checkpoint on Egugwu Agbaja, Hilltop Road in Abakaliki Local government area of Ebonyi State, resulting in the deaths of seven policemen

and five passers-by and leaving several others injured.

"Victims who sustained injuries have been taken by sympathizers and Emergency Services to nearby hospitals for urgent medical attention but it is feared that the death toll may rise as a result of the attack.

"Sources disclosed that the hoodlums stormed the area in two Lexus Jeeps and one Toyota Sienna around 8:25am. They reportedly opened fire on the Police officers at the checkpoint and at passers-by.

"The assailants, armed with sophisticated weapons, stormed the area and opened fire indiscriminately, causing chaos and panic among the residents. The attack took place in a densely populated area,

catching many people off guard as nothing of such has ever occurred in the area. The sound of gunfire echoed through the neighborhood, sending shockwaves throughout the community. The community is reeling from the shock of the attack, and residents are urged to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the authorities.

"The safety and security of the residents are of utmost importance and law enforcement agencies are working diligently to ensure that such a tragedy does not occur again.

"Local authorities have condemned the heinous act and have launched an investigation into the incident in an effort to apprehend the perpetrators and bring them to justice.