

## Akeredolu's convoy didn't kill motorcyclist –Police

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March 10, 2020

Adewale Momoh Akure



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olice yesterday dispelled the rumour making the rounds that the convoy of Governor Oluwarotimi Akeredolu killed a motorcyclist at Owo in Owo Local Government Area of Ondo State on Sunday night.

The state

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Tee-Leo Ikoro, said the motorcyclist identified as Jimoh Aladeniyi rammed into a stationary vehicle which led to his death on the spot.

Ikoro, who urged the public to disregard the rumour, disclosed that the governor's convoy did not knock down the motorcyclist as being speculated.

The PPRO said vehicle, which Aladeniyi rammed into, had been towed to the police station while the family members of the deceased took his body away from the scene of the accident.

He said: "It is good to correct the impression on the social media. Journalism is about factual reportage.

"I went with some journalists. The car involved was parked and the cyclist rammed into a stationery vehicle. It is wrong for people to say it was the governor's convoy.

"The jeep is with us for proper investigation."

Akeredolu was on transit through Owo town when the incident happened. He was on his way from a political rally in Oka, Akoko South West area of the state.

Also, during a visit to the town yesterday, a witness, who is a commercial motorcyclist, Ajayi Sam, confirmed the PPRO's position.

He said: "I witnessed the incident. The man on the Okada was on top speed before he rammed into a stationary vehicle and died on the spot."

"It was not the governor's convoy that crushed him. That is a big lie. I was there. In fact, the motorcyclist was on top speed and could not control himself and before you knew it, he rammed into the stationary vehicle.

"If he was not on top speed the impact on the vehicle that was parked in front of the Owo Technical College would not be that much."

Also, the state Commissioner for Information and Orientation, Donald Ojogo, denied the report trending on social media that the governor's convoy crushed the motorcyclist.

"It is untrue that the convoy of the Governor, Arakunrin Oluwarotimi Odunayo Akeredolu, SAN, was involved in the accident as ascribed in the report.

"This clarification becomes pertinent in view of the misleading narrative that has trailed the unfortunate death of a motorcyclist who rammed into a stationary vehicle. This, without prejudice to police investigation, is the outcome of our preliminary probe on the heels of the anxiety understandably generated by the deliberate news slant.

"The vehicle is now at the police station in Owo for inspection and possible verification by journalists as well as the public.

"Notwithstanding that the governor's convoy was not involved as erroneously painted in the reports, Governor Akeredolu sympathises with the family of the deceased and prays God for the repose of his soul.

"This incident, unfortunate and avoidable as it seems, underscores the need for caution on our highways," Ojogo said in a statement.