

# Vanguard

## Man sets friend ablaze, injures another in Lagos

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**LAGOS**—One person was allegedly set ablaze during a brawl in a shanty in Lekki area of Lagos, yesterday.

Another, said to have sustained severe burns, was at press time receiving treatment in an undisclosed hospital in the area.

This is just as Sara Foam industry in Kirikiri area of the state went up in flames, destroying property which monetary value could not be immediately ascertained.

On the Lekki death, *Vanguard* gathered that fight broke out between two friends in Awoyaya Elefo area during which one of them was said to have set alight a shanty occupied by his rival.

South-West spokesman for the National Emergency Management Agency, NEMA, Ibrahim Farinloye, who confirmed the incident, said: “Another person that was severely injured is presently receiving medical treatment in the hospital.”

### Sara Foam

No life was lost in the Sara Foam fire, said to have been caused by electricity surge. Report said an explosion occurred from one of the firm’s air conditioners at about 1.30p.m.

Efforts by the members of staff to contain the fire, said to have started from the warehouse, failed and it spread to the administrative department and other buildings.

An eyewitness, Nelson Innocent Ibokwe, said: “I rushed to the company when I heard the fire alarm. Some of the staff tried to salvage some of the products. But the fire was massive.

“This is the second time this incident is occurring; it happened two months ago and it is not clear yet what caused the last one.

“The only water we got to use at first was the one from the gutter close to the company.

However, companies around, such as Ford Motors and an oil company, later assisted us with water. I thank God that my company evacuated their things before the fire spread.”

### We lost over N1bn

—Sara Foam MD

Also, Managing Director of Sara Foam, Mr. Mohammed Rana, a Lebanese, described the incident as devastating, particularly as it happened about a year after the demise of its owner.

According to Rana, “the fire was caused by a power surge. It has no connection with what happened last month. It just happened and a spark from the air conditioner led to all these.

“Fire service from Julius Berger arrived 30 minutes after the fire started because the roads are very bad. Several persons sustained varying degrees of injuries during the ensuing stampede.

“We have lost over a billion naira. We are calling on the state government to come to our aid and those of thousands of Nigerians because our foam is a major product in Nigeria.”

Director, State Fire Service, Rasaq Fadipe, said three fire trucks were drafted to the scene.

He said: “Just as we were battling the fire, another distress call was received from Awoyaya Elefo Lekki.”

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