

7 arrested over death of LASTMA official in Lagos

By Esther Onyegbula & Nimat Otori

SEVEN persons have been arrested in connection with the attack that led to the death of an official of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority, LASTMA, along Ikorodu Road.

Vanguard gathered that a commercial bus driver plied the BRT lane, last Tuesday, at the Bariga area of Lagos, consequent upon which the vehicle was impounded.

Some social miscreants were said to have besieged the scene, in an attempt to forcefully take the vehicle from the official. But they did not succeed as the vehicle was driven to the agency's office.

In anger, the miscreants were said to have taken over the area, attacking any LASTMA official in sight. One of them, Olusegun Obasu, who was at his duty post at Anthony was not spared. While his colleagues managed to escape, he could not.

While parading the suspects before journalists at the Lagos State Police Command headquarters, the Commissioner of Police,



The suspects

Hakeem Odumosu, described the attack on the LASTMA official as barbaric.

Odumosu said: "The case is under investigation at the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department, Yaba. The suspects will be charged to court soon."

We're not involved —Suspects

However, when approached, the suspects: Alaba Adepoju, 44; Ayodele Yusuf, 25; Yusuf Waris, 21; Oladele Adejobi, 32; Rilwan Ramanu, 25; Babalola Femi, 23 and Ayomide Oyeyeni, 28, denied culpability in the attack that led to Obasu's demise.

One of them, Ayodele, said:

"On that particular day, I was doing my normal job as a conductor when the whole place was in disarray. I crossed to the other side of the road to check what was happening, only to be arrested as a suspect. I didn't kill any LASTMA official, my hands are clean."

On his part, Ayomide, a commercial bus driver, said: "I was doing my normal job when the incident happened. I stopped my bus and joined other drivers at the spot where we were discussing what happened, only to be rounded up by the police."

Like Ayodele, Kwari said he had gone to see what happened, only to be apprehended.