

Lawyer killed as OCDA agents, NURTW members clash in Imo

By Emmanuel Iheaka

OWERRI—THERE was pandemonium in Owerri, Imo State, yesterday, as operatives of Owerri Capital Development Authority (OCDA) and members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) clashed at the ever-busy Control Post roundabout in the city.

An eyewitness disclosed that trouble started when OCDA men stormed a loading bay at the area, forcing passengers to disembark and trying to stop vehicles from loading.

The eyewitness said their action did not go down well with members of the NURTW, who were said to have resisted the OCDA, resulting in a free for all.

Gunshots were said to have rent the air, as traders, residents and passersby scampered for safety.

A source said that a lawyer, identified as Amaechi Udogaranya, was hit by a stray bullet at the scene of the clash and died in a hospital few moments later.

Udogaranya, a native of Oguta Local Government Area of the state, was said to be on his way to his children's school when he was killed.

Armed policemen later arrived at the scene to calm the situation.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer, Micheal Abattam, said normalcy had been restored to the area.