

By Efe Onodjæ

3 die in Lagos auto crash

....As drivers escape unharmed

LAGOS State Police Command has confirmed that three people died in the early hours of yesterday in an auto crash at the Lekki-Ikoyi Link Bridge toll gate, Lagos, while the drivers of the vehicles involved came out without injuries.

Vanguard gathered that the crash occurred about 1a.m., and involved two vehicles with a total of eight occupants.

It was further gathered that two passengers, whose identities could not be ascertained at press time died on the spot, while the third person, who was initially rescued alive, and being rushed to hospital succumbed to injuries shortly after the incident.

The bodies of the deceased have been transferred to the Yaba Mortuary, Lagos.

A dispatch rider, Junior Popoola

Larry, who assisted in pulling victims from the wreckage, recounted that one of the victims was still alive but tragically stopped breathing after about 10 minutes.

However, A social media user, Dr Love #Drweloveu, who shared details of the incident on via X, said, "18-year-old driver killed three of his friends in accident. Police arrested the remaining two survivors. The driver was about 18 years old and without a driver's licence."

Dr Love, describing the scene, said: "Instead of helping, the police who arrived at the scene handcuffed the survivors, acting like they didn't care about the

bodies on the ground. This action reportedly shocked bystanders, including local elders, who urged the police to prioritise the victims' care.

"People in the area, including elders, couldn't believe what they were seeing. They begged the police to focus on taking the dead to the hospital or mortuary instead of arresting those who had just lost their friends.

"After many complaints, the police finally let them go, and the crowd began trying to help, searching for the families of those who had died. It was a deeply sad night, filled with loss and a feeling that things should have been handled differently."

Confirming the accident, Lagos State Police spokesman, Mr. Benjamin Hundeyin stated that police officers arrived shortly after the crash.

"The police took the occupants to the hospital, where three were certified dead. The bodies have since been transported to Yaba Mortuary for proper handling," Hundeyin added.

He further noted that one of the drivers, suspected to be at fault, was also taken to the hospital for treatment and has been placed in the custody of his family while the investigation continues.