



National Human Rights Commission, The Gambia

PRESS RELEASE

THE ALLEGED SHOOTING OF A POLICE OFFICER AT FASS NJAGA CHOI BY ARMED ROBBERS

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has learned with shock the recent bandit attack on the Police Intervention Unit Check Point at Fass Njaga Choi in which a Police officer was shot and injured. The Commission strongly condemns this cowardly act orchestrated by unknown individuals whose motives caused fear and endangered local security. The Police is entrusted with the responsibility to protect lives and properties and any attack on them does not only constitute an unlawful act but also a grave threat to law and order, which is unacceptable in our growing democratic dispensation.

We are saddened by this tragedy, and we send our thoughts and prayers for speedy recovery to the injured Police officer. The Commission uses this opportunity to urge the Government to expedite the Security Sector Reform processes and also adequately equip our law enforcement officers so that they can execute their functions in a more efficient and effective manner, and according to law.

The Commission welcomes the swift action of The Gambia Police Force in initiating investigations into the incident. It is imperative that investigations are intensified to bring to book the culpable individual gang members. Meanwhile, we request the Police to strengthen its patrol at all the border communities, especially those communities which have been susceptible to armed robbery.

Finally, the Commission urges members of the public with information on this matter to cooperate with the police and assist them in their investigation. We wish to encourage the citizenry and residents in The Gambia, particularly those who live in border communities, to always remain vigilant and report suspicious activities to the Police without delay.



Emmanuel Daniel Joof
CHAIRPERSON