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INVESTIGATIONS UPDATE INTO SUNDAY'S FATAL SHOOTING OF TWO BODA BODA RIDERS IN MAKONGENI

On Sunday 7th September 2025, IPOA received a notification from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), Thika West and Makongeni Police Station in Thika West Sub-County, regarding the fatal shooting of two Boda Boda operators. The report linked the shooting to a police officer attached to the DCI.

IPOA, upon receiving the notification, commenced investigations into the shooting, pursuant to the provision of Section 6(a) of the IPOA Act.

Preliminary investigations by IPOA has established the following:

1. The police officer involved in the shooting has been identified as No. 93397 PC Eric Gitonga, attached to the DCI Headquarters Economic and Commercial Crimes Unit (ECCU), and a resident of Thika Landless area.
2. On 7th September 2025, at around 0530 hours, he was driving home in his Audi, registration number KDC 053K. After passing Makongeni Police Station by approximately 200 metres on the Thika–Garissa Highway, he was involved in a road traffic accident with motorcycle registration KMDL 406L, which was carrying a rider and a pillion passenger.
3. An altercation ensued between the officer and the boda boda rider regarding who was at fault. Both parties later proceeded to Makongeni Police Station to resolve the matter. The duty officer subsequently summoned traffic police officers from Thika Police Station, who arrived at the scene at around 0600 hours.
4. While at the scene, the police officer became rowdy and resisted being disarmed. In the process, he fatally shot two people who were at the scene. The officer was later disarmed, detained at Thika Police Station, and later transferred to Kiambu Police Station.
5. After the shooting, angry members of the public set the police officer's car on fire.
6. The bodies of the two victims, Kennedy Ojuma and Stephen Mwendwa, are preserved at Thika General Kago Mortuary.
7. IPOA has obtained crucial documents from Makongeni Police Station and the Thika Police Station Traffic Office, including OB extracts, signals, and the duty roster.
8. Statements have been recorded from nine police officers drawn from both Makongeni and Thika Police Stations.
9. On Monday, 8th September 2025, the suspect officer was arraigned at the Kiambu Law Courts, where IPOA sought custodial orders for 21 days to complete its investigations. The Court on Tuesday, 9th September 2025, allowed for a three-day custodial order, ordered that the officer deposits his passport, and after the three days the officer be committed to a bond of Ksh.500,000 and a surety of a similar amount until the lapse of the 14 days allowed for investigations. The Court ordered that during this period the officer reports to IPOA on each alternate date. The matter will be mentioned on 23rd September, 2025.

10. IPOA plans to oversee the post-mortem examinations of the two deceased persons, record additional witness statements, forward the officer's firearm for ballistic examination, and obtain CCTV footage, among other tasks.

The Authority is committed to conducting investigations impartially as it fulfils its mandate of holding the police accountable and advancing the objectives of Article 244 of the Constitution. It further urges police officers to act professionally at all times.

Similarly, the Authority appeals to members of the public, and in this particular instance, members of the Boda Boda to desist from taking law into their hands whenever such incidents happen, and allow the law to take its course.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ahmed Issack Hassan', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

**AHMED ISSACK HASSAN, CBS.
CHAIRPERSON.**

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