

SHERIFF DEPUTIES

MONTHLY SECURITY REPORT

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Sheriff Deputies is a grade A licensed Private security company with broad interests and clientele base cutting across all industries. Security is a dynamic sphere, more so in Nigeria which has recently been riddled with ever worsening insecurity across the nation. We hereby highlight some developments which have impact on security of public and private interests in the country.



1. OKADA BAN (RESTRICTION) IN LAGOS

Effective 01-02-2020 The Lagos state government began enforcement of its previously announced restrictions on movements of commercial motorcycle and tricycle operators commonly known as Okada and Keke Marwa/NAPEP respectively.

It restricted their movement to specific local governments within the state and banned their movements on most highways and bridges within the state. The major reason for taking this decision as reported by government officials was the safety and health of Nigerians as the their reports for 2019 has shown about 10,000 deaths linked to motorcycle related Road traffic accidents, with many more individuals disabled . Another reason sighted in security circles was the security risk posed by these riders, as the vast majority of them were undocumented, non-indigenous, economic immigrants from other states of the federation.

Enforcement of this new directive from the state government has been very effective so far, despite initial stiff resistance to the idea and even some hotspots of protests around the state in the first couple of days. Public reaction to the policy has been varied with continued heated debates over its merits and demerits. However, one thing is sure, it has rendered a lot of people jobless and without their means of livelihood. As a result, an uptick in the crime rate across the state is anticipated and the police along with relevant stakeholders are implementing strategies to mitigate and prevent this risk from negatively impacting the lives of populace and the state in general.

Recommendations

- * Individuals should exercise a high level of alertness and suspicion before entering unmarked vehicles posing as transporters, as cases of robbery and kidnaping using this modus operandus are on the increase.
- * Extra care should be taken while driving in traffic;
- * Avoid placing objects like phones, bags, laptops in clear view on passenger's seats or otherwise to prevent attracting unwanted attention of criminals, these items should be placed in the boot before starting your journey from point A to B.
- * Always be alert to your environment,
- * Avoid driving in dangerous areas known for criminal activity early in the mornings or late at night.
- * If possible avoid driving alone, share a ride. If not, ensure to let a close/trusted associate always have an idea of your itinerary.
- * Heightened level of security and access control at all business and index of suspicion of unknown individuals in your community, as residential premises, to discourage criminal elements Increased criminals often loiter around an area during or before perpetrating a crime.
- * Have the police emergency number 112 or 199 on speed dial and do not hesitate to report any suspicious activity.



2. LASTMA: INDUCTION OF 1017 NEW OFFICERS AMIDST INCESSANT GRIDLOCKS

On the 5th of February, 2020, the Lagos State Governor Babajide Sanwo Olu inspected and addressed the new crop of 1017 Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) officers who had just completed their rigorous training course.

They were encouraged to avoid all corrupt practices and to deliver their mandate of doing all within their capabilities to ensure free flow of traffic within the metropolis.

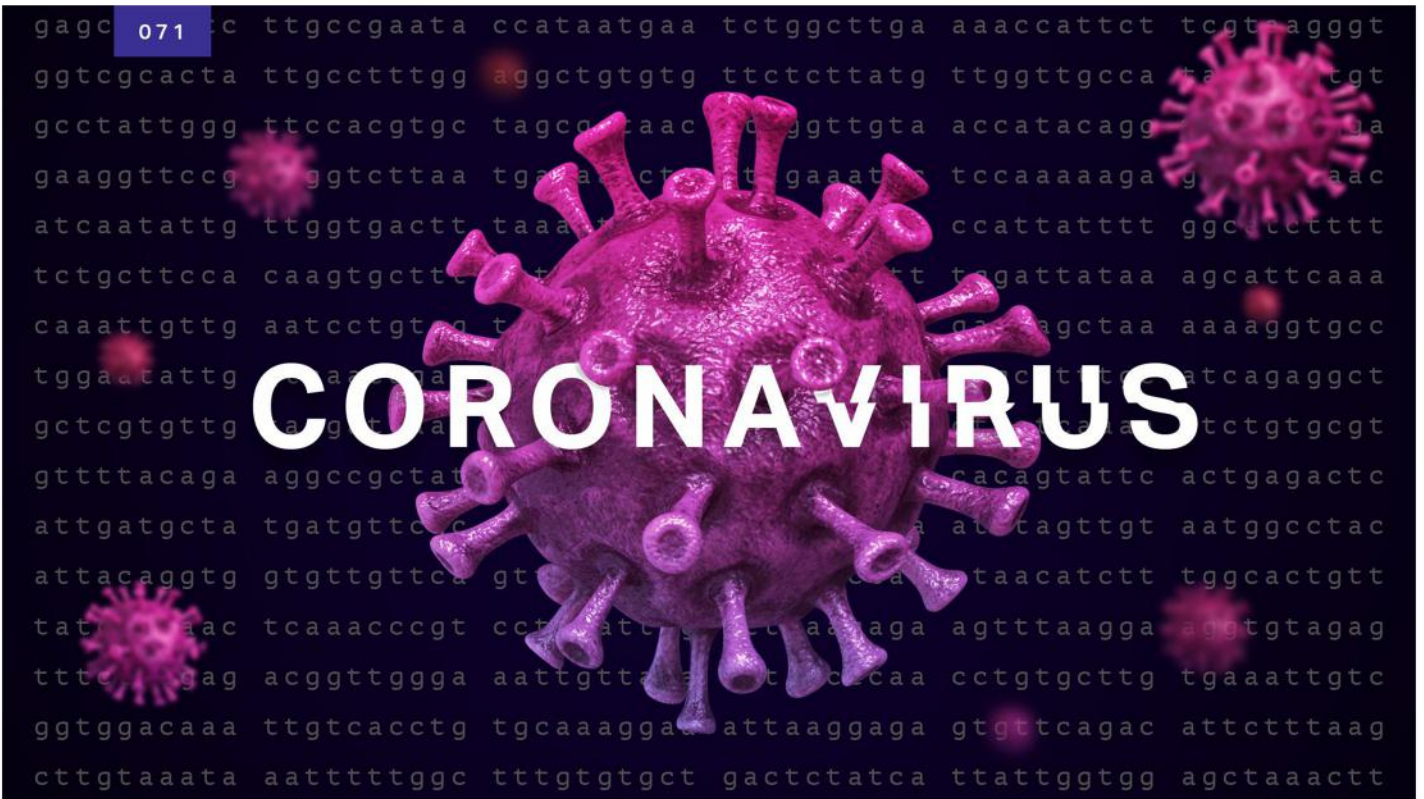
This is against a backdrop of ever worsening traffic situation in the state with daily occurrence of heavy traffic buildups, gridlocks and standstills at multiple areas. This leads to a lot of economic losses to the state due to man hours lost while commuting from point A to B within the city.

The government on their own part in their commendable determination to control the traffic menace, have deployed resources and are embarked on major road repairs at areas like Ojota- Ikorodu road, Ikeja-Allen round about, Oshodi Apapa express, Agric-Isheri road,

Recommendations

- * Always obey traffic rules and regulations. other road users (especially but not limited to pedestrians).
- * Traffic violations lead to heavy fines, always cooperate with traffic law enforcement officials.
- * Be patient and avoid driving in a way that will endanger yourself and other road users (especially but not limited to pedestrians).
- * Always stay informed. Consult your maps e.g. Google maps before shortest routes to your destination, there are also regular traffic reports on radio stations e.g. Traffic Radio.

3. Corona Virus-CoViD19



In October 2019 hazy reports started surfacing of a highly contagious viral infection in China. The initial reports suggested that a food Market in the city of Wuhan in Hubei province was the ground zero of the infection. Despite containment measures of shutting down the market and Quarantine of individuals and contact tracing, the infection rapidly spread, there are currently over 70,000 infected individuals in China, from several provinces across the country.

The mortality rate of the infection is about 5% with the immunocompromised individuals at highest risk, the elderly, young and those with comorbidities. The morbidity rate is currently unknown however the virulence of the virus is without doubt and rate of infection may be close to 100% after contact with infectious subject or material.

The exact mechanism of spread of the infection is under investigation. However signs and symptoms are typically of a pulmonary infection marked by high fever, cough, sneezing, and malaise. In severe infection pneumonia and organ failure may develop. Therefore it is believed that contact with droplets from sneezing or coughing by infected persons is how it is spread.

On 11 February 2020, after a visit to China by the WHO, they designated the disease as COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease – 2019). The virus belongs to the group of viruses know as Corona viruses, other members of the family cause diseases such as SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) and MERS (MIDDLE EAST RESPIRATORY SYNDROME). On 27 Feb 2020 the WHO Director General Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus addressed the UN, and the numbers presented “China has reported a total of 78,630 cases of COVID-19 to WHO, including 2,747 deaths. Outside China, there are now 3,474 cases in 44 countries, and 54 deaths. It's not usually a runny nose. In 90% of cases it's a fever and in 70% of cases a dry cough”.

28th February 2020 the first confirmed case of COVID-19 was reported by government officials in Nigeria, the subject was an Italian expatriate who had arrived Nigeria from Milan on 25th February, 2020. He has been admitted at an infectious disease control unit in Lagos where it was discovered and is currently reported to be in a stable condition. Officials assure the public that they are adequately prepared and contact tracing has commenced with quarantine of all affected individuals.

NB; An equally deadly endemic infection of Lassa Fever is currently posing a challenge

On the 5th of February, 2020, the Lagos State Governor Babajide Sanwo for authorities with cases reported in 27 states of the federation and 118 deaths so far, Cumulatively from week 1 to week 08, 2020, 118 deaths have been reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 17.1%. In its latest report covering February 17th to 23rd, NCDC gave the number of confirmed cases as 609 and nine probable cases. Of all confirmed cases, 72% are from Edo (34%), Ondo (32%) and Ebonyi (7%) states. The predominant age-group affected is 21-30 years (Range: <1 to 78 years, Median Age: 33 years). The male to female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:1.2

Recommendations

- I. Education of the general public on the risks and measures being taken to ensure safety
- ii. Avoid disinformation, do not share unverified information, staying calm is tantamount to overcoming this challenge
- iii. Observe universal safety procedures
 - Handwashing
 - Avoid physical contact (handshakes) where possible
 - Sneeze into a tissue or handkerchief and dispose of properly, then wash hands
 - Use face masks properly and when necessary
 - Never touch your face with unclean hands
 - Avoid contact with bodily fluids
- iv. If you have a fever or feel unwell, avoid large crowds, stay indoors and report to the relevant authorities

4. MARITIME SECURITY AND PIRATE ATTACKS IN GULF OF GUINEA

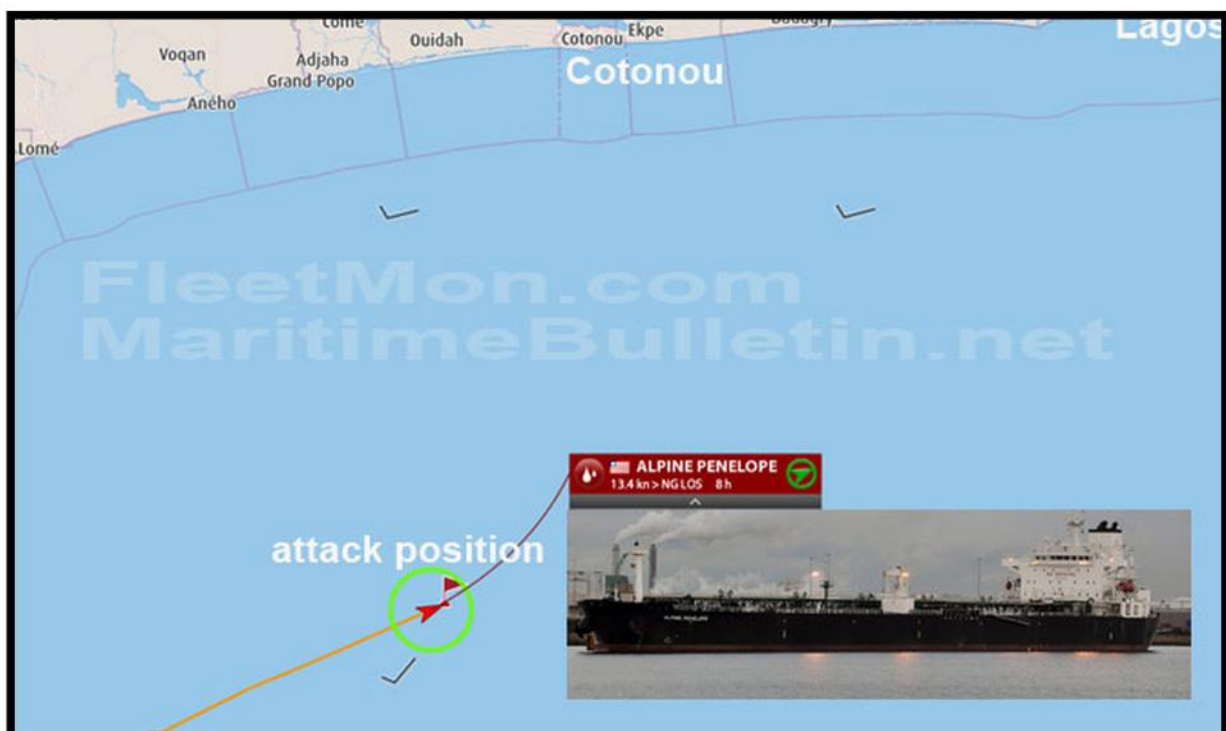


The last quarter has seen a renewed surge in the frequency of attacks in the Gulf of Guinea and bight of Bonny by pirates. In the month of February there have been a number of attacks, of note are;

MAERSK TEMA: IMO No. 9698264, a cargo ship released a distress signal on 14/02/2020 which was responded to 15hrs later by the Nigerian Naval vessel SVS TEACH IMO. 9686534, a Portuguese naval vessel joined 2-3hrs later. No reports that crew members were hurt or kidnapped. The container ship was en route to Lagos from Port Noir Congo. The attack occurred 200 nautical miles southeast of Bonny

In another development, the

ALPINE PENELOPE: IMO No; 9379301, an oil tanker vessel operating out of the Netherlands was attacked by pirates. Members of the multinational crew were attacked by pirates on the 20th of February 2020, there are indications that 2 pirates boarded, and 10 out of the 24 multinational crew were kidnapped, SSAS was activated but there were no ships nearby. IMO reports indicate that, in 2019 over 90 percent of globally reported kidnappings at sea took place within the Gulf of Guinea, and the vast majority of attacks are launched on vessels from within Nigerian territorial waters, the attacks were conducted by criminal groups, whose camps and members are in remote areas of the Niger Delta creeks.



Recommendations

Heightened collaboration between the naval and coastal guard countries of Benin, Cameroon, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo along with foreign partners, in all areas including funding, trainings, information sharing Increased Naval patrol of the coastal waters off the shores of Nigeria Compliance of Naval crews with stipulated international best sailing standards to minimize the risk of being boarded by pirates Minimal resistance in the case of face to face confrontation if your vessel is boarded, in order to avoid risk to life.

5. NATIONAL SECURITY



There remains a heightened sense of insecurity within Nigeria due to an increase in violence perpetrated by multiple actors from North to south of the country.

In the North-East there has been significant success recorded by the Nigerian Armed forces in denigrating the capabilities of Boko Haram and ISWA (Islamic state in West Africa) and containing the threat within a few states (Borno center stage, Adamawa, Yobe). Several coordinated operations carried out this month by the Nigerian Airforce and Army have led to neutralizing several insurgents and their logistics in terms of arms vehicles.

However, typical of modern guerilla warfare, these insurgents have evolved and adapted their strategies. They no longer operate large camps but have decentralized their fighters, only assembling in large numbers to carry out ever more brazen and horrific attacks on vulnerable communities, Michika, Konduga, Magumeri, Damboa.

There were also reports of attacks by bandits in north-central and north western states; Katsina, Zamfara etc. with destruction of lives and properties. Violence still reigns in many areas of southern Kaduna with several attacks by unidentified gunmen, these areas are Hiwa, Kachia, Chikun, Dutse.

There was also a recorded increase in reports of violence and killings by “herdsmen” in the middle-belt and southern states. These killings appear to be largely random in their targets, with the apparent aim of inflicting mayhem and terror on affected communities and generating funds through ransom.

Kidnappings continue across the country, a number of reports have come from Kogi state, 6 kidnapped at Lokoja, 12 kidnapped at Ofu, 12 children abducted in Ilorin west, Kwara state. A number of deaths also ensued from unrelated cult clashes in Edo, Benue etc.

There was also significant unrest in Sagamu, Ogun state due to violent protests against Police over the death of a local football player, live rounds were fired to dispel protesters.

Recommendations

Travel advisory must be sought as due diligence before taking a decision to travel to these aforementioned areas. Avoid travel to volatile areas.

As an expatriate or blue collar staff, if travel to these areas is unavoidable, always seek for and ensure the services of armed security escort personnel.

To avoid kidnappers, always maintain a low profile while in transit; no flashy jewelry, simple attire, simple phones etc.

Increased support for the armed forces in terms of numbers and logistic capabilities to assist them in overcoming the insurgents.

Better border control to prevent free cross-border movements. The armies of neighboring countries Cameroon, Chad and Niger must intensify their efforts and collaboration with the Nigerian armed forces so that there are no safe havens for the insurgents.

Community policing must be increased in all LGAs

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