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PUBLIC AFFAIRS UNIT
REGIONAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS
POST OFFICE BOX 3
TARKWA/WCR

5TH AUGUST 2026

PRESS RELEASE

POLICE INVESTIGATE EXPLOSION AT A TAILINGS SITE IN ABOSO, NEAR TARKWA

The Western Central Regional Police Command is investigating an explosion that occurred at a tailings site in Aboso, near Tarkwa on Tuesday, 4th August 2026, resulting in the death of three persons and injuries to three others.

Police personnel immediately responded to the scene following reports of the explosion and commenced investigations.

Preliminary investigations indicate that at about 1200 hours on the day of the incident, workers at the site spotted a python and informed the owner, David Kofi Fletcher, now deceased, who reportedly arrived at the site armed with a pump-action shotgun to kill the reptile. It is suspected that after firing a shot, the pellets struck explosive materials believed to have been illegally stored at the premises, triggering the explosion.

The explosion claimed the lives of the site owner; David Kofi Fletcher and two other persons identified only as Solomon and Baba. Three other persons sustained various degrees of injury and were rushed to hospital, where they are receiving treatment. The bodies of the deceased have been deposited at the Tarkwa Municipal Hospital Mortuary for preservation and autopsy.

The explosion also caused extensive damage to nearby properties. Several houses within the vicinity had their window panes shattered, while six (6)

vehicles parked at a nearby washing bay had their windscreens and windows damaged.

The Minerals Commission has been notified and is collaborating with the Police as investigations continue to establish the full circumstances surrounding the incident.

The Western Central Regional Police Command expresses its deepest condolences to the bereaved families and wishes the injured persons a speedy recovery. The Command further reminds the public that the unlawful possession, storage, handling, or sale of explosives constitutes a serious offence and poses significant risks to public safety. Members of the public are urged to report any suspected illegal storage or handling of explosives to the nearest Police Station.



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