



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



**Request Number:** F-2010-01064

**Keyword:** Complaints/Discipline

**Subject:** Officers Charged Under Article 10.1

### Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

The timeframe used is from 1 March 2003 to 31 March 2010.

### Question 1

Since the inception of the PSNI how many officers have been charged under Article 10.1 (Duty of Supervisors) of the Code of Ethics as contained in Schedule 4 of the PSNI (conduct) regs 2000?

The number of officers involved?

### Answer

The PSNI Code of Ethics was not introduced until 2003, which was after the inception of the PSNI in November 2001. Between 1 March 2003 and 31 March 2010 five police officers were charged under Article 10.1 of the Code of Ethics.

### Question 2

The rank of the officers involved?

### Answer

All of the officers held the rank of Sergeant.

### Question 3

The sanctions imposed?

### Answer

The sanctions imposed were Reprimand, Caution, Fine and Required to Resign.

#### **Question 4**

The Community Background of the officers involved? (please check this I don't think that this is an exact science as Community Background of many officers is assumed – please check with Equality & Diversity if we should be saying something like assumed community background)

#### **Answer**

The perceived Community Background was:

60% Protestant

40% Catholic

It is worthy of note each case presented at a Misconduct Hearing is examined on an individual basis to determine the level and nature of misconduct of the officer and the extent to which the PSNI's Code of Ethics has been breached. The seriousness of the offence, the circumstances surrounding its commission and its potential impact will dictate the level of action to be pursued and the misconduct sanction ultimately imposed.

The information requested in Question 4, was provided on request by the PSNI's Equality and Diversity Branch, as PSNI's Professional Standards Department do not hold this information. The remainder of the information requested has been complied by the PSNI's Professional Standards Department which has responsibility for internal discipline relating to police officers.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Team on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review in accordance with our complaints procedure. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of the Freedom of Information Team, Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road Belfast BT5 6LE or by emailing [foi@psni.pnn.police.uk](mailto:foi@psni.pnn.police.uk).

If following an internal review you remain dissatisfied in anyway with the handling of the request you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.