



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2012-00082

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Number Of PSNI Officers Stabbed On Duty In 2011

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.

Question

Could you please tell me how many Police Officers, whilst on duty, were the victims of a stabbing incident in 2011, whether or not injury was inflicted?

By Police Officer, I mean holder of the Office of Constable of any rank i.e. Special Constable, Police Constable, and Police Sergeant etc.

By Stabbing Incident, I mean where any person attempted to slash/stab an officer with a knife or similar article i.e. scissors, needle etc.

Answer

From 1st January to 31st December 2011 there were a total of 62 incidents of violence against the person - with injury and assault without injury offences where the victim was an officer on duty and a knife/sharp instrument was involved in the incident.

Please Note: Knife/sharp instrument figures are based on weapon details taken from a live operational system and are therefore subject to change.

Knives/sharp instruments are as defined by the Home Office. It is not possible to identify how the knife/sharp instrument was actually used in the incident.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me 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. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office 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.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.