

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **INDECOM probing fatal shooting at the Olympic Gardens Police Station**

**April 20, 2016** - The Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) has launched an investigation into the fatal shooting of a civilian in the vicinity of the Olympic Gardens Police Station at approximately 6 a.m. on April 20, 2016.

The deceased man has been identified as 23 year old Odane Bennett of Hill Avenue, Kingston 11. Initial information received by investigators confirmed that Bennett was of unsound mind and had been treated at the University Hospital and the Kingston Public Hospital for mental health problems in the past.

### **Police Report**

The report received by INDECOM from the police is that a police officer was in a service vehicle parked outside the police station when a man (Bennett) allegedly relieved him of an M16 rifle and ran into a public passenger vehicle. It was reported that after he boarded the vehicle he was confronted by the same police officer and was shot and injured. He was later taken to the Kingston Public Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

A team from INDECOM attended and processed the incident scene and the body of the deceased. Civilian and security force witnesses were interviewed. The concerned officers were served with Notices to furnish INDECOM with an account of the incident. The firearm of the concerned officer was taken out of circulation and packaged and will be transported to the Government Forensic Laboratory.

### **Seeking Public Cooperation**

The Commission is asking anyone who may have witnessed or can provide any information about the incident to call its Kingston officer at **1.876.968.1932**, or call our mobile number at **1.876.878.0167**. Persons are also encouraged to call our new Toll Free Lines: **1.888.991.5555** or **1.888.935.5550**.