

# PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## INDECOM formally charge police officer with murder of teacher in Clarendon

**February 15, 2016** - The Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM), has charged a member of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) relation to the fatal shooting of Steven Dyer, a former teacher of the York Town Primary School.

Constable Devon Cooper was formally charged with murder at the Grants Pen Police Station on Friday, February 12, 2016, and scheduled to appear before the Corporate Area Resident Magistrate's Court today (Monday, February 15, 2016).

Con. Cooper was taken into custody on February 7, 2016 at approximately 6:30 p.m. following the incident which happened at approximately 10:30 a.m.

The matter was heard by Senior Resident Magistrate in the Corporate Area RM Court, Her Honour Ms. Judith Pusey. He was offered bail in the amount of \$1 million with one to three sureties following an application made by his attorney Valerie Neita-Robertson. He is to report to the May Pen Police Station twice a week; he was ordered to surrender his travel documents and stop orders placed on him at all ports.

The matter is scheduled for mention on March 3, 2016 in the May Pen Resident Magistrate's Court.

### **Background**

It was reported to INDECOM by the police that Mr. Dyer was shot and injured allegedly by Constable Cooper after an altercation on Saturday, February 6, 2016 in Bushy Park, May Pen, Clarendon. Dyer was transported to the May Pen Hospital where he was admitted in serious condition. He was then transferred to the University Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries at 10:50 a.m. (Sunday, February 7, 2016)

INDECOM investigators took a statement from the victim before he was transferred to the University Hospital. Additionally, several witnesses cooperated with the investigators giving their accounts of the incident. **END**