

PRESS RELEASE

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INDECOM PROBES JDF-RELATED FATAL SHOOTING

January 21, 2016 - The Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) has launched an investigation into the fatal shooting a civilian by a member of the Jamaica Defence Force on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 on Regent Street, Kingston at approximately 10:39 p.m.

The deceased has been identified as Keith Gardner.

The injury of two (2) others in the same incident is also being investigated, however the circumstances under which they received injuries are still unclear.

The report from the police stated that a foot patrol team, comprising one (1) JCF member and eight (8) JDF member, was in the Golden Heights Housing Scheme. The team separated into two groups; one of the groups engaged in a confrontation with the deceased who was reportedly armed. He was shot and injured and was taken to the Kingston Public Hospital where he was pronounced dead. Two other civilians subsequently turned up at the hospital claiming they were injured in the incident.

The police also reported the recovery of a weapon during the incident.

A team from INDECOM comprised of investigators and forensic examiners responded at approximately 12:17 a.m. Since then, the team has processed the scene, the body of the deceased and continue to make enquiries regarding the incident as it relates to the deceased and injured persons. Investigators have interviewed several persons including members of the JDF and JCF. INDECOM representatives will be revisiting the scene of the incident with a view to collecting more information.

The Commission is asking to anyone who may have witnessed or can provide any information about the incident to call its head office in Kingston at **1.876.968.8875**, 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**.

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