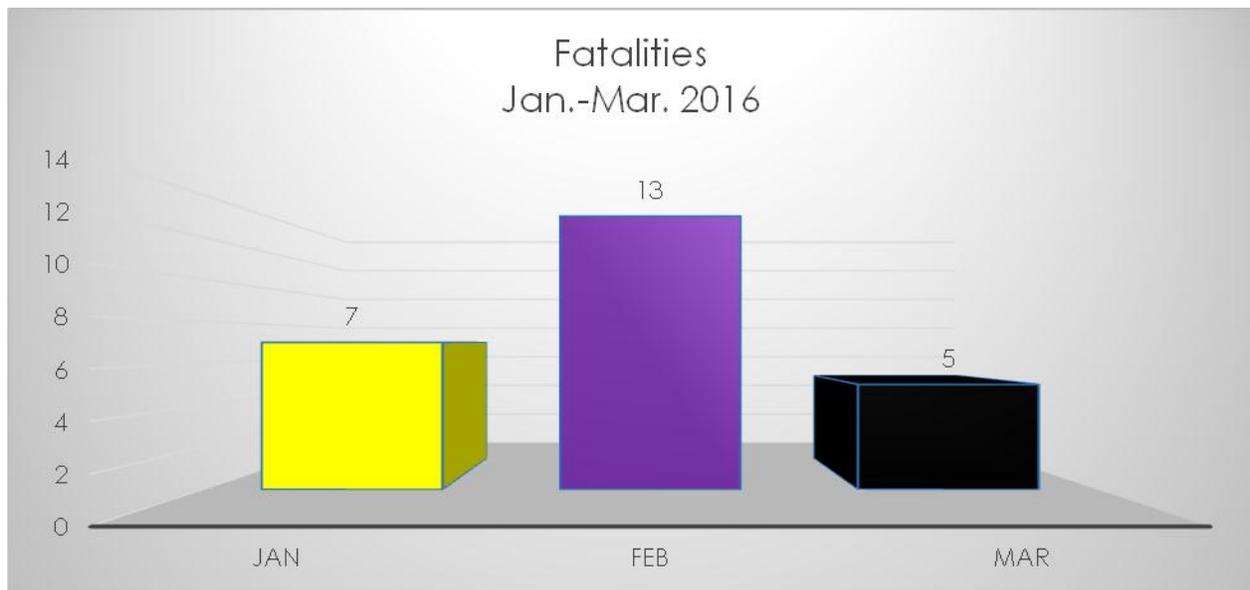


# PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**Contact: Kahmile Reid** - Senior Public Relations Officer  
The Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM)  
1 A Dumfries Road, Kingston 10  
Gen: 1.876.968.8875 Ext. 282. Mobile: 1.876.564.6765.  
Email: [kahmile.reid@indec.com.gov.jm](mailto:kahmile.reid@indec.com.gov.jm)



## INDECOM Statistics – First Quarter 2016

**May 2, 2016** - The Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) recorded 212 complaints for the first quarter of 2016.

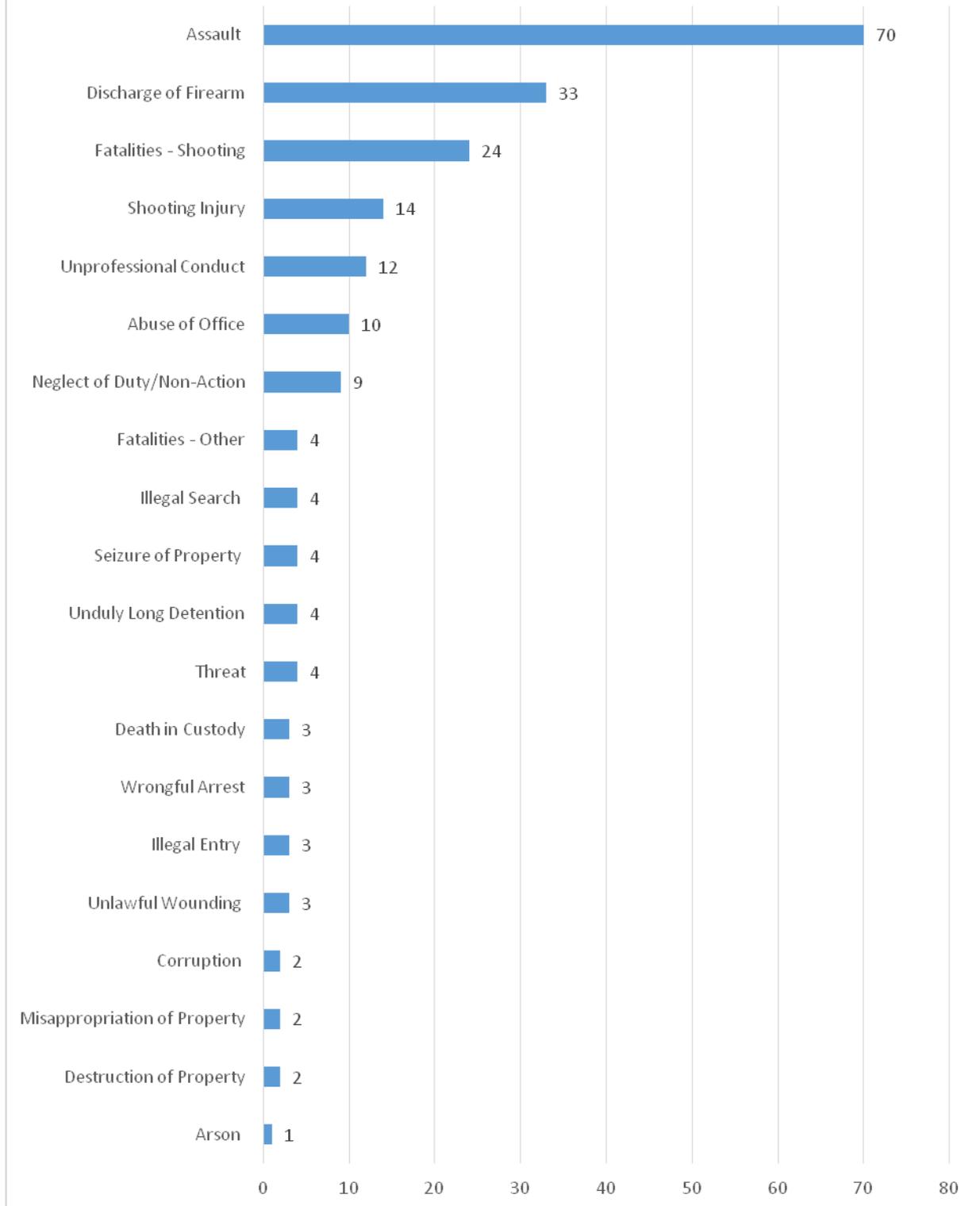
Of the 212 complaints recorded, the most common allegation was assault which represented 33 per cent (70) of the total; discharge of firearm which represented 16 per cent; and 11 per cent (24) of the allegations were fatal shootings; while one (1) was a motor vehicle-involved death.

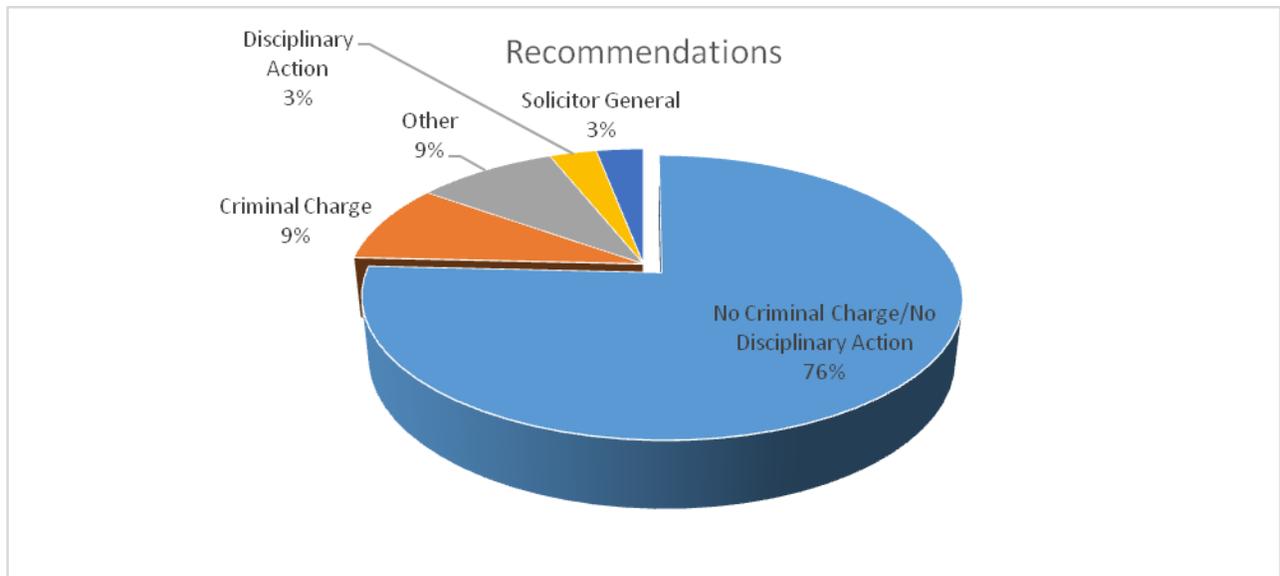
Investigators and forensic examiners attended 95 incident scenes. The nature of these incident scenes included fatal shootings, assaults, discharge of firearms, shooting injuries, deaths in custody and destruction of properties.

While the Commission recorded 24 fatalities from shooting incidents, 13 of the shooting incidents were non-fatal.

The Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) accounted for 22 of the shooting incidents which allegedly led to 24 deaths while members of the Jamaica Defence Force and officers in the Department of Corrections were involved in two (2) fatal incidents each.

## All Complaints - 2016





### Complaints Resolved– the Legal Department

Thirty (30) Commissions reports were completed for the period

In 76 per cent (25) of the matters, no criminal charges or disciplinary action were recommended; in 9 per cent (3) of the matters criminal charges were recommended; in one (1) matter disciplinary action was recommended. In four matters civil remedies were recommended.

### Arrests

Two (2) arrests were made for the period. The Commission arrested and charged Constables Devon Cooper for the Murder of Steven Dyer and Constable Rohan Bucknor for the murder of Mark Bernard.

### Complaint, Grievance and Disciplinary Policy

The Commission recently approved a Complaint, Grievance and Disciplinary Policy, a document that will guide the handling of external grievances against the Commission. The Committee will be chaired by Retired Justice Mrs. Marjorie Cole-Smith.

The Policy is available to the public on the Commission's website: [www.indecom.gov.jm](http://www.indecom.gov.jm)

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Email: [kahmile.reid@indecocom.gov.jm](mailto:kahmile.reid@indecocom.gov.jm)

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## **Investigation into fatal shooting of Cons. K'mar Beckford concluded**

**May 2, 2016** - The Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) concluded its investigation into the fatal shooting of Cons. K'mar Beckford.

### **The Commission's Findings:**

- The evidence indicated that the deceased was in fact in the course of committing aggravated robbery at Lorna's Bar and Grill in Hopewell, Hanover, when he was shot and killed.
- Inspector Wayne Jacobs, who was a patron in the bar at the time engaged Cons. Beckford and was shot three times during the gun battle; Beckford also shot and injured another patron.

### **Recommendations:**

- No criminal charges or disciplinary action should be perused against Inspector Wayne Jacobs in relation to the fatal shooting of Cons. K'mar Beckford as there was no evidence of criminal conduct on his part.
- The Commission recommends that the matter be referred to the Coroner's Court for that office to determine whether an inquest is necessary.
- The Commission recommends that one member of the JCF be subjected to disciplinary action for failure to preserve the incident scene in accordance with the provisions of Section 22 of the INDECOM Act and the "Directions" issued thereunder.

### **Background**

On April 4, 2015, it was alleged that Cons. K'mar Beckford attempted to rob a bar at gun point when he was engaged by a patron who was a police officer. A gun battle ensued and three persons were shot, the inspector who engaged Beckford and another female patron as well as Beckford. **END**