

# PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **UPDATE:** INDECOM ARRESTS 5 JCF MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ALPHA STUDENT SHOOTING INCIDENT

**July 4, 2016** - The Independent Commission of Investigations (INDECOM) wishes to advise the public that as at 7:35 p.m. this evening, five (5) members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) attached to the Mobile Reserve Division have been arrested in relation to the shooting injury of a Convent of Mercy Academy (Alpha) student on Thursday, June 30, 2016.

The police officers will be placed before the Parish Court as soon as an Identification Parade and interviews are conducted.

The Commission thanks the High Command of the JCF for their cooperation in this investigation.

### **Background**

The Commission launched an investigation into the shooting injury of the female student following the incident on Thursday, June 30, 2016. The incident occurred at the intersection of North Street and Mark Lane at approximately 7:15 a.m.

The student underwent emergency surgery at the Kingston Public Hospital and is still recovering in the Intensive Care Unit.

The report received by INDECOM was that a man who was operating a "robot" taxi transporting students of Convent of Mercy Academy (Alpha) and St. Georges College, was allegedly stopped by the police. It was also alleged that after this taxi stopped, the police opened fire at the vehicle. One of the bullets hit one of the students in the head.

A team of INDECOM investigators and forensic examiners responded to the incident following the report. The incident scene and motor car were processed; and statements collected from eyewitnesses to the incident.

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