

5 June 2019

Our Reference: IR-01-19-5909

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to you in response to your request dated 28 February 2019. You asked:

- *How many incidents since January 1, 2018 were firearms presented at police officers? Can I also have this divided by police district.*
- *Did any of the incidents involved licensed firearm owners? If so, how many?*
- *How many were imitation firearms?*
- *How many times were police actively fired upon?*
- *How many police officers were injured in these incidents?*
- *How many members of the public were injured in these incidents?*
- *How many prosecutions resulted from these incidents?*

I also request all correspondence with and reports prepared by and for [REDACTED] regarding a national project that's being done on to gather more specific data on the number and types of incidents where firearms are presented at officers.

Between 1 January 2018 and 12 March 2019, there have been 15 instances where Police recorded an offence of using a firearm against law enforcement officer, using a firearm to resist arrest, or assault police with a firearm. These are shown by district below.

Scene District	Occurrences with assault Police with a firearm offence
Northland	1
Waitematā	1
Auckland City	1
Counties Manukau	5
Waikato	1
Bay of Plenty	2
Eastern	1
Central	1
Wellington	0
Tasman	0
Canterbury	2
Southern	0
Total:	15

Police National Headquarters

180 Molesworth Street. PO Box 3017, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.
Telephone: 04 474 9499. Fax: 04 498 7400. www.police.govt.nz

In one of the incidents, a person who had used a firearm had held a firearms licence at the time of the offence.

Ten of the incidents had real firearms and in five of the incidents it was unknown if the firearm was real as it was not located after the officers were threatened.

In three incidents, the officers were actively fired on, and in one incident the firearm was fired in the air. In the remaining 11 incidents, the firearm was used to threaten the officers but was not fired.

No one was injured by firearms in any of the incidents where a firearm was discharged by the alleged offenders.

In 13 of the 15 incidents, charges were filed for one of those specific offences (using a firearm against a law enforcement officer, using a firearm to resist arrest, or assault Police with a firearm). Charges for other offences were filed for all 15 incidents.

Your question requesting all correspondence and documents is refused in accordance with section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982 as this will take substantial collation and research to produce. Having spent three hours so far we have identified 418 relevant emails and this would require further redaction of any out of scope information, as well as personal information, or information relating to investigations. In arriving at this decision, I have first considered whether fixing a charge and/or extending the time for response would enable the request to be granted. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. If you could narrow down your request to be of due particularity (section 12(2)(a) of the OIA), we could identify the specific documents you are seeking.

For your information, Police has developed a process for proactive release of information, so the response to your request may be publicly released on the New Zealand Police website.

Yours sincerely



Mike McIlraith
Acting Superintendent
Arms Act Service Delivery Group