

18 February 2022

Joshua Rogers
fyi-request-18044-bb6e783a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Joshua

I am writing in response to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 23 December 2021. You wrote:

I am writing to request an Excel file relating to all firearms related jobs (Where firearms have been used either by, or against police) from the period of 1/05/2018 to 23/12/2021. Specifically I request all Hamilton City jobs.

I would like the file to contain the following columns:

Date, Time, CARD/Event number, Location (if possible), Weapon Discharged (Yes/No and by who) and Result Code.

Two police databases have been used to answer your request.

First, the Tactical Options Reporting Database (TOR):

The TOR database records police use of tactical equipment. For your request, I have filtered all TOR events that involved police using a firearm in the Hamilton City area. "Use" of a firearm includes presenting the firearm or discharging the firearm.

TOR data from 2018 to 2020 that had completed the review process (as of the date the data was extracted for that year's TOR Report) was used. Data for 2021 is comprised of TORs which have completed the review process as at 18 January 2022 and is subject to change.

A TOR "event" is the reportable use of one or more tactical options by one officer, against one individual. Multiple TOR events can occur at one incident.

The Armed Offenders Squads (AOS) and Special Tactics Group (STG) are exempted from reporting shows (but not discharges) of TASER and firearms.

Result code information is not collected in the TOR database; instead Police has provided you with subject resolution details from the TOR database.

See the attached Excel sheet, "Table 1. TOR events involving a presentation or discharge of a firearm by police in the Hamilton City Area between 1 May 2018 and 23 December 2021."

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The second is the Gun Safe database which was used for the data pertaining to firearms use at police.

Gun Safe was introduced nationally on 1 March 2019 to record police encounters with firearms (data prior to this date is not available). Staff are asked to enter all events where firearms are believed to be involved, into Gun Safe, regardless of whether, or how, these firearms were used during the event. This includes, but is not limited to, events where firearms are seized or located, events where a person involved has a history of using firearms, and events involving the presentation or discharge of firearms at members of public or police.

Gun Safe discharge events are those involving at least one firearm discharge at police. This includes events involving discharges at, or in the general direction of, police officers, police dogs, police vehicles, and police premises.

Gun Safe presentation events are those involving at least one firearm presentation at police. This includes events involving a firearm being pointed directly at police officers, police dogs, police vehicles, and police premises. These events did not also result in a discharge of a firearm at police.

The Gun Safe information provided is from a live operational database. There has been significant effort to verify the accuracy of the data, but some inaccuracies may still exist.

See the attached Excel sheet, "Table 2. Gun Safe events involving a presentation or discharge of a firearm at police in the Hamilton City Area between 1 March 2019 and 23 December 2021."

You have a right under section 28(3) of the OIA to ask the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of my decision.

Please note that as part of its commitment to openness and transparency, Police proactively release some information and documents that may be of interest to the public. Therefore, an anonymised version of this response may be publicly released on the Police website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J Ross', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Inspector Jason Ross
Acting Director: Capability
Police National Headquarters
