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PRESS RELEASE: INVESTIGATIONS INTO SOUTH B AND KIRINYAGA FATAL SHOOTINGS

The Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) is established through Cap. 86 of the laws of Kenya to provide for civilian oversight over police work.

On Monday, 20 May 2024, IPOA learnt of the fatal shooting of a civilian in Kirinyaga County, purportedly, by police on patrol. On Wednesday, 22 May 2024, IPOA also received information about the fatal shooting of two people along Lusaka Road in South B, Nairobi.

Pursuant to sections 6(a) of Cap.86 of the laws of Kenya, IPOA has - on its own motion - sent two rapid response teams to conduct investigations into the two incidents of fatal shooting. Upon completion of investigations and where criminal culpability is proven, IPOA will recommend prosecution.

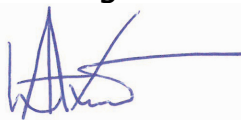
POLICE OFFICER JAILED FOR DEATH OF GEORGE NAMALWA WEKESA IN BUNGOMA COUNTY

On 26 December, 2018, IPOA learnt of the death of George Namalwa Wekesa in Butonge Village, Bungoma County. On own motion, IPOA initiated investigations after which it recommended the prosecution of four police officers among them Constable Francis Amulei Iyaya.

On 19 April, 2024 the Court in Bungoma found the former police officer guilty of seriously assaulting George Namalwa Wekesa leading to his death. The Court thereby convicted him accordingly, acquitting the other three.

Consequently, on Friday, 17 May, 2024, the Court sentenced Francis Amulei Iyaya to serve 20 years in prison.

In executing its mandate of holding police accountable to the public and ensure that police strive for professionalism and discipline, the Authority continues to conduct investigations. IPOA remains independent, impartial and fair in all its investigations.



ANNE MAKORI, E.B.S.
CHAIRPERSON

Notes:

CONDITIONS AS TO THE USE OF FORCE AS PER NPS ACT AND SERVICE STANDING ORDERS

- A police officer shall always attempt to use non-violent means first.
- The force used shall be proportional to the objective to be achieved, the seriousness of the offence, and the resistance of the person against whom it is used.
- When the use of force results in injuries the police officers present shall provide medical assistance immediately and unless there are good reasons, failing to do so is a criminal offence.
- A police officer who uses any form of force shall immediately, report to his or her superior.
- Any use of force that leads to death, serious injury and other grave consequences shall be reported immediately to the **Independent Policing Oversight Authority**.
- It shall be a disciplinary offence for a police officer to fail to report in accordance with these regulations.
- A Police officer in uniform shall at all times affix a nametag or identifiable Service number in a clearly visible part of the uniform.
- Following the orders of a superior is no excuse for unlawful use of force.

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