

OpTac International News Bulletin

Law Enforcement Officers Shot in April 2016

OpTac International, Inc. conducts research in areas most affecting law enforcement officers and their agencies. Recent **News Bulletins** reported data and corresponding analysis on January and February line of duty deaths resulting from gunfire over the past two decades, along with information on officers who were shot in March 2016. This edition of the **OpTac International News Bulletin** focuses on law enforcement officers shot in April 2016.

A meticulous search of news reports was conducted in an effort to obtain data on the number of incidents, number of officers shot in each incident, corresponding dates, and geographic locations for April 2016. This information is presented in the following table:

Incidents	Officers Shot	Location of Occurrence	Date
1.	1	Mobile, Alabama	April 1, 2016
2.	1	Austin, Texas	April 3, 2016
3. (LEO Accidental)	1	Napoleon, Ohio	April 5, 2016
4.	1	Uttarakhand, India	April 6, 2016
5.	1	Columbus, Ohio	April 9, 2016
6.	1	Portales, New Mexico	April 11, 2016
7.	1	Houston, Texas	April 14, 2016
8.	1	Austin, Texas	April 14, 2016
9.	1	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	April 17, 2016
10.	1	Florence, Alabama	April 17, 2016
11.	1	Mitchells Plain, South Africa	April 18, 2016
12.	1	Delft, South Africa	April 21, 2016
13.	3	Topeka, Kansas	April 23, 2016
14. (Suspect Accidental)	1	St. Louis, Missouri	April 23, 2016
15.	2	Chandler, Arizona	April 23, 2016
16.	1	Arlington, Texas	April 25, 2016
17.	1	Chicago, Illinois	April 25, 2016
18.	1	Kingston, Jamaica	April 25, 2016
19.	1	Keeling, Virginia	April 26, 2016
20. (Police K-9)	1	Gresham, Oregon	April 27, 2016
21.	1	Salt Lake City, Utah	April 27, 2016
22.	1	Kingston, Jamaica	April 28, 2016

23.	1	Trinity, North Carolina	April 30, 2016
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Near Misses

1. Officer shot at while investigating a suspicious vehicle	1	Rochester, New York	April 1, 2016
2. Undercover officer shot at	1	London, England	April 3, 2016
3. Barricaded suspect fired rounds at police	3+	Bel Air, Maryland	April 21, 2016
4. Suspects fired rounds at officers during pursuit	2+	Los Angeles, California	April 23, 2016
5. Suspects ambushed officers in an unmarked police car	3	San Bernardino, California	April 28, 2016
6. Officer shot at while sitting in his police cruiser	1	New Orleans, Louisiana	April 30, 2016

There were 23 separate incidents in which 26 law enforcement officers (including one K-9) were shot in April 2016. Two incidents involved more than one officer and the vast majority of incidents occurred in the United States. The table also contains six near misses in which at least 11 officers would have been shot if the suspects' had been more accurate. They were included for general information purposes even though these types of occurrences were not researched as part of this study.

April 2016 kept pace with March 2016, in which 28 officers were shot in 22 separate incidents. This represents a two-month total of 54 law enforcement officers who were shot in 45 separate incidents. Our data reflects a minimum number of occurrences since the possibility exists that under-reported incidents may have been unintentionally excluded. This vitally important issue continues to be ignored by the mainstream media, while negative police stories are sensationalized as political hot-topics. Regrettably, improved officer safety and police performance will not occur until the media generates community pressure on politicians and department heads to make radical changes to policing.