

OpTac International News Bulletin

Law Enforcement Officers Shot in May 2016

OpTac International, Inc. conducts research in areas most affecting law enforcement officers and their agencies. This edition of the **OpTac International News Bulletin** continues our investigation into the frequency and number of officers who are shot on a monthly basis.

Previous **News Bulletins** presented March and April 2016 data on the number of incidents, number of officers shot in each incident, corresponding dates, and geographic locations. May 2016 data is detailed in the following table:

Incidents	Officers Shot	Location of Occurrence	Date
1.	1	Pittsburg, California	May 4, 2016
2.	1	Mahomet, Illinois	May 7, 2016
3.	1	Tempe, Arizona	May 7, 2016
4.	1	Kansas City, Kansas	May 9, 2016
5.	1	Rosebud, South Dakota	May 11, 2016
6.	2	Manchester, New Hampshire	May 13, 2016
7.	1	Los Angeles, California	May 13, 2016
8.	1	Hampton, Virginia	May 14, 2016
9.	1	Eddyville, Illinois	May 15, 2016
10. (Accidental)	1	Austin, Texas	May 17, 2016
11.	1	Phoenix, Arizona	May 18, 2016
12.	1	West Covina, California	May 20, 2016
13.	1	North Kansas City, Missouri	May 20, 2016
14.	1	Oxford, Massachusetts	May 22, 2016
15.	1	Auburn, Massachusetts	May 22, 2016
16.	1	Dunlap, Tennessee	May 25, 2016
17.	1	Lansing, Illinois	May 26, 2016
18.	1	Appleton, Wisconsin	May 28, 2016
19.	1	Columbus, Georgia	May 28, 2016
20.	2	Houston, Texas	May 29, 2016
21. (Accidental)	1	Marlin, Texas	May 29, 2016
22.	1	Newark, New Jersey	May 31, 2016

A meticulous search of news reports was conducted to obtain the above data, which reflects the continuation of a disturbing trend in policing:

May 2016: 24 officers shot in **22** separate incidents
April 2016: 26 officers shot in **23** separate incidents
March 2016: 28 officers shot in **22** separate incidents

The three-month total has now risen to 78 officers who were shot in 67 separate incidents. As a reminder, our data comes from a minimum number of occurrences since the possibility exists that under-reported incidents may have been unintentionally excluded.

Safety is paramount for law enforcement officers. The mentality that accepts officer shootings as "part of the job" permeates law enforcement and society in general, thereby creating a false normalcy. Organizational conditions to include improved officer training, staffing, and equipping can immediately impact this dangerous trend in policing.