



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS
PRESS STATEMENT

**STATUS OF FILES FROM IPOA ON GEN Z PROTESTS OF JUNE,
2024**

1. Since **19th June 2024**, the **Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions** (ODPP) received a number of inquiry files from the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) touching on deaths and other related injuries during protests in various parts of the country relating to the Gen Z protests.
2. Upon receipt thereof and review thereof, the **ODPP** gave various directions thereon including closure of some, further investigations thereon by **IPOA** and or the Inspector General of the National Police Service, where appropriate, in accordance with the law.
3. **Injury to Mr. Dominic Wanjala Mutua - A Journalist**
Mr. Wanjala was allegedly hit by a teargas canister fired by a police officer directly at him at a close range on **18th June 2024**, as he was covering protests within the Nairobi **CBD**. Upon perusal of the file, the **DPP** referred the file back to **IPOA** for further investigations, including as regards the authenticity of the video in which the officer was allegedly captured firing the canister at the victim.
4. **Death of Evans Kiratu Karobia**
Mr. Kiratu reportedly succumbed to injuries he sustained on **20th June 2024** within Nairobi **CBD**, resulting to multiple organ injuries due to blunt force trauma. With no person having come forward to record any statement on the alleged assault and noting that he had no gunshot wounds, the **DPP** referred the matter to a public inquest vide **MCCR Inquest No. E008 of 2024** which was filed on **15th August 2024**. 1 witness has since testified, with 7 more remaining. The inquest is fixed for mention on **18th June 2025** to fix a further hearing date.

5. Death of Rex Kanyike Masai (Deceased)

Rex reportedly succumbed to injuries suffered from a gunshot on his left thigh. Due to the fact that the people who took him to hospital, including the key witness who was allegedly with him at the material time, had not come forth to record statements, and the fact that the CCTV footage did not clearly identify the person who pulled the trigger, the **DPP** referred the matter to a public inquest vide **MCCR Inquest No. E015 of 2024**, which was filed on **15th October 2024**. 8 witnesses have since testified, with 12 more left. The inquest is fixed for further hearing on **12th and 19th May 2025**.

6. Shooting of Gianna Markel Obonyo (Deceased)

Ms. Obonyo reportedly suffered a gunshot wound at the lower back on **25th June 2024** while riding a bicycle in her parents' compound. At the time of receiving the file from **IPOA**, the subject bullet had not been released by the Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) authorities to IPOA for ballistics examination. The **DPP** shall review the case and make further directions once the investigation file is resubmitted with the ballistics report.

7. Alleged Shooting of Andrew Mwawasi (Deceased)

Mr. Mwawasi was reportedly shot at **Githurai 44** in Nairobi. The **ODPP** is currently undertaking a review of the inquiry file and shall take the appropriate action at the soonest possible time.

8. Tillan Odhiambo (Deceased)

In line with the recommendations by **IPOA** vide a letter dated **3rd September 2024**, the **DPP** directed that the inquiry file be closed due to the fact that the available medical evidence from the pathologist did not disclose any offence.

9. Lewis Mroso (Deceased)

Similarly, in this case, in line with the recommendations by **IPOA**, the **DPP** directed that the **IPOA** inquiry file be closed due to the lack of evidence of police involvement and lack of eye witnesses as to how the deceased was injured. However, the **DPP** directed the **DCI Parklands** to open an Inquest File No. 4 of 2004 to enable further investigations thereon.

10. Death of Sammy Cullen Maina (Deceased)

Mr. Maina's body was on **9th June 2024**, before the Gen Z protests, recovered at the City Mortuary with multiple organ injuries. The pathologist found that the injuries were consistent with a traffic accident. In line with **IPOA's** recommendation, the **DPP** directed that the **IPOA** inquiry file be

closed as there was no evidence of police involvement, and in its place, the investigations be taken over by the police.

11. Frankline Ondwari (Deceased)

On the basis of **IPOA**'s finding that **Mr. Ondwari** had died by suspected suicide after having been released from police custody and noting that the allegations of abduction by the police could not be established, the **DPP** directed that the **IPOA** inquiry file be closed.

12. Anthony Mwangi

Upon review of the inquiry as submitted by **IPOA**, which involved the shooting of a police officer by another police officer, the **DPP** directed **IPOA** vide a letter dated **19th February 2024** that the matter be subjected to diversion in line with the **ODPP Diversion Policy and Guidelines**. We await information from the **Internal Affairs Unit** and **IPOA** on the outcome of the diversion.

13. Emmanuel Giggs Tata (Deceased)

The **IPOA** inquiry file forwarded to the **ODPP** vide a letter dated **6th September 2024**, was received at the **ODPP** on **9th September 2024**. Upon review thereof, it was established that there was no evidence of police involvement in the death of **Mr. Tata**. Accordingly, vide a letter dated **28th March 2025**; the **DPP** directed that the **IPOA** file be closed with the rider that the same may be reviewed should any new information arise.

14. The events of **25th June 2024** were unprecedented and hence, a public inquest on its own may not wholly address the issues. To address all the underlying causes, a strictly judicious and prosecutorial process on its own, may not be sufficient. A whole-of-society approach may be needed. In this regard, the **ODPP** continues to work with all stakeholders to find the best way forward that will comprehensively address the issues.

15. The **DPP** reiterates his calls upon the public or any other person with information pertaining to any of the pending cases to come forward and record a statement with **IPOA**. This will enable the state ascertain the cause of the injuries noted in the post mortem report.

16. The **ODPP** undertakes to continue its collaboration with other government agencies to ensure safety of victims and witnesses.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS & CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Dated: 30th April 2025