



31 Officer Fatalities in the First Quarter of 2016

According to preliminary data from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, law enforcement officer fatalities increased 15 percent in the first quarter of 2016, compared to the same time period in 2015. Thirty-one law enforcement officers were killed from January 1, 2016 to March 31, 2016, increasing from the 27 fatalities during the same period in 2015. During the first quarter of 2016, 16 officers were shot to death, 12 died in traffic-related fatalities, two officers died as a result of job-related illnesses, and, one officer was killed in an aircraft accident.

Shootings were the leading cause of officer deaths during the first quarter of 2016 with 16 officer fatalities. This is an increase of 129% over the seven gunfire fatalities in the first quarter of 2015. Of the 16 officers who died from gunfire, five were ambushed. Traffic-related fatalities were the second leading cause of officer deaths during the first quarter of 2016 with 12 officer fatalities, decreasing 8 percent from 13 fatalities during the same time in 2015. Eight officers were killed in

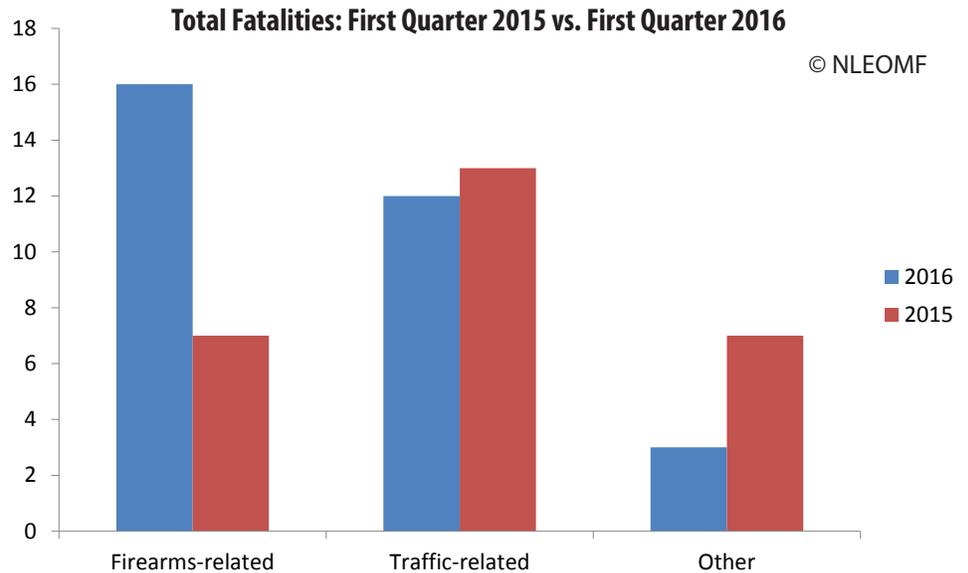
Shootings were the leading cause of officer deaths

automobile crashes, three were killed in stuck-by crashes and one was killed while on a motorcycle. The information regarding the motorcycle fatality indicates that this was a murder. The officer was deliberately struck and killed while stopped at a red light.

The state of Maryland suffered the most officer fatalities in the first quarter of this year, with three deaths, followed by Colorado and

Virginia which each had two fatalities. Thirty-eight states and the District of Columbia did not suffer a law enforcement fatality during the first quarter of 2016.

The average age of the officers killed in the line of duty was 37 years old, and the average length of service was 11 years. Twenty nine fallen officers were male and two were female. On average, each officer left behind one child.



RECENTLY FALLEN



Police Officer Ashley Guindon
Prince William County (VA)
Police Department
EOW: 2/27/2016

Police Officer Ashley Guindon was shot and killed while responding to a domestic dispute call.



Deputy Sheriff Mark Logsdon
Harford County (MD)
Sheriff's Office
EOW: 2/10/2016

Deputy Sheriffs Logsdon and Dailey were shot and killed after responding to a call for service at a local restaurant.



Deputy Sheriff Patrick Dailey
Harford County (MD)
Sheriff's Office
EOW: 2/10/2016

Deputy Sheriffs Dailey and Logsdon were shot and killed after responding to a call for service at a local restaurant.

Register to receive Recently Fallen alerts at www.LawMemorial.org/RecentlyFallenAlerts



This report is part of an innovative partnership with the VALOR initiative to promote law enforcement officer safety.

The data and statistics contained in this report are preliminary and do not represent a final or complete list of individual officers who will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in 2017.

Circumstances of Fatal Shootings

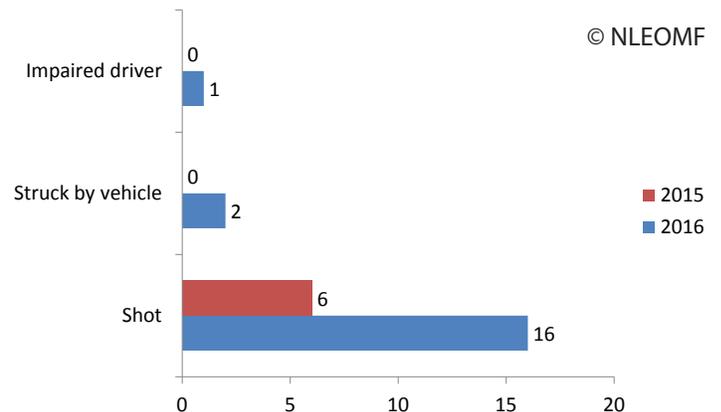
The first quarter of 2016 saw a dramatic increase in firearms related fatalities, which more than doubled compared to the first quarter of 2015. This uptick is cause for concern, and is coupled with the fact that five of the shooting cases involved ambushes of unsuspecting officers. The circumstances of the 16 fatal shootings vary, however domestic violence was an element in five of the cases.

In three cases, officers were shot while engaged in tactical situations such as barricades or serving high risk warrants, three officers were attempting an arrest, three were investigating suspicious activity, one officer was shot inadvertently as he responded to an ambush attack on a police station and another officer was executed while sitting in his patrol car in the rear of the police station.

Felonious Fatalities: First Quarter 2015 vs. First Quarter 2016

Nineteen officers were feloniously killed in the first quarter of 2016, a 217% increase over the 6 officers feloniously killed in 2015.

Of those 19 officers, 16 officers were shot, one officer was intentionally struck and killed, one officer was accidentally struck and killed, and another was killed when his SUV was struck on the roadside by an impaired driver traveling at a high rate of speed. During the same period in 2015, all six officers were feloniously shot and killed.



Training Recommendations

Based on fatality information collected by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, these recommendations are intended to help prevent violence against law enforcement officers and ensure officer resilience and survivability during encounters. Learn more at www.ValorForBlue.org.

Recommendation 1.

Wear your issued body armor. In one of the shootings this quarter, an officer was not wearing body armor that may have saved him. It can save your life in a crash and in a shooting.

Recommendation 2.

No call is routine and calls for domestic disturbances are extremely dangerous. Think tactically when approaching a home or other scene when investigating a complaint of domestic violence or any domestic related incident.

Recommendation 3.

Before arriving on the scene, be sure you have reviewed all of the information on the call. Await your back-up and act in concert sharing information about the call, the location and any known problem areas. "Talk it Through Before you Knock and Walk Through."