

**Ref. No. IPOA/CEO/PRESS/19 (25)**

**21/03/2023 10:42:16**

## **MONITORING OF POLICE CONDUCT DURING THE AZIMIO DEMONSTRATIONS**

The Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA), in execution of its mandate under Section 6 (c) of its Act yesterday dispatched its officers across the country to monitor the manner in which the Police conducted public order management following the demonstrations mobilised by the Azimio Coalition.

In carrying out the monitoring, IPOA sought to assess police compliance with Article 244 of the Constitution, the Public Order Act and any other laws related to public management and the use of force.

While it is noted that the police largely operated with restraint and within the confines of the law, the Authority noted two incidents in which a university student was fatally shot in Kisumu County and a man seriously injured in Toi Market in Nairobi County, all allegedly by the police. The Authority has since launched investigations into the incidents and is also on standby to take up investigations for any incidents that may arise in the interim.

The Authority also noted that some police officers were injured and property damaged in yesterday's demonstrations.

IPOA strongly condemns the provocation witnessed from both the members of the public and politicians and calls upon them to abide by the law in exercising their constitutional right to demonstrate, in particular the Public Order Act, Penal Code and all other laws relevant to public order management.

The Authority can be reached via toll free number 1559, [complaints@ipoa.go.ke](mailto:complaints@ipoa.go.ke) to lodge cases of misconduct or commendations of the Police during yesterday's and future demonstrations.

IPOA remains committed to being independent, impartial and fair.



**ANNE MAKORI, E.B.S.**  
**CHAIRPERSON.**

**\*\*\*END\*\*\***

**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.

***For queries, please call 020 4906000 or email [dennis.oketch@ipoa.go.ke](mailto:dennis.oketch@ipoa.go.ke)***