



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

Your Ref:
Our Ref: 19/1497
Enquiries:
Telephone: 7322 3347
Facsimile: 7322 4180

Mr Mario Christodoulou
Australian Broadcasting Corporation
GPO Box 9994
NSW 1214

Email: christodoulou.mario@abc.net.au

Dear Mr Christodoulou

Re: Freedom of Information Act application

In reference to your application made pursuant to the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 1991, access was sought to:

"I am seeking, statistical information on instances when SA Police Officers have used force. In particular, I am seeking instances when the USE OF FORCE has been recorded on the SAPOL's internal electronic database ... for a period of five years ... from 20/03/2014 to 23/03/2019."

I wish to thank you for your patience in granting SAPOL additional time in which to deal with your request.

On 3 June 2019, I spoke with you to advise that Special Task and Rescue Group (STAR) maintain a separate database which records all Category C Firearm incidents. You agreed to narrow the scope of your request to exclude that data.

It is determined to **release in full** South Australia Police 'Use of Force' data captured between 20 March 2014 and 23 March 2019 that falls within the scope of your request. The data has been disclosed on the attached DVD. Please note that columns titled 'TYPE' and 'CHARGE TYPE' are not mandatory data entry fields therefore some contain no data.

Firearm incidents are categorised as follows:

- Category A—a shot is discharged (including tear gas or other incapacitating substance, object or device) and death (including death by suicide) or personal injury results.
- Category B—a shot is discharged (excluding tear gas or other incapacitating substance, object or device) but there is no death or personal injury.
- Category C—no shot is discharged.

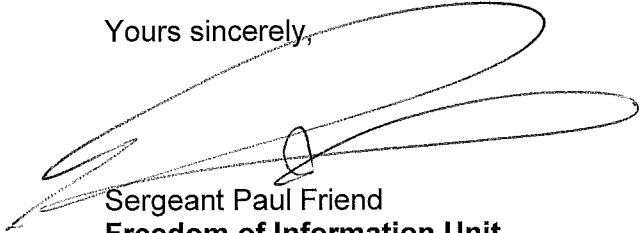


Electronic Control Device (ECD) incidents are categorised as follows:

- Category A—the ECD is fired, discharged or has direct contact with a subject (drive-stun). This includes an accidental discharge or the failure of a device to operate or deploy where a subject is involved.
- Category B—the ECD is presented to a subject or the subject is laser painted or removing the device from its holster in anticipation for use (other than when loading or unloading the device or in approved training).
- Category C—an accidental discharge occurs (not involving a subject) or the ECD cartridge fails to operate when fired in a training environment.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, will be published on the SAPOL website Disclosure Log. A copy of PC045 can be found at <http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>. If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing by 30 June 2019.

Yours sincerely,



Sergeant Paul Friend
Freedom of Information Unit
(Accredited Freedom of Information Officer)

13th June 2019