



National Human Rights Defense Network (RNDDH)



27th Anniversary of the PNH:

RNDDH demands better working conditions for the police officers

June 10, 2022

1. June 12, 2022, brings back the commemoration of the twenty-seven (27) years of existence of the Haitian National Police (PNH). On this occasion, the National Human Rights Defense Network (RNDDH) wishes to draw the population's attention to the recurrent killings of police officers, the general working conditions of PNH officers, and the inaccessibility of health care for the police officers.

I. MURDERED OFFICERS

2. From June 17, 2021, to June 6, 2022, at least forty-four (44) police officers were murdered by armed individuals, including twenty-one (21) death of the officers from January 1 to June 6, 2022,. The following information presents details of the circumstances in which these officers lost their lives:

3. On June 17, 2021, Gasley LIMAGE, a graduate of the 29th promotion, was shot in the occipital while in Delmas 5. He was admitted to the Bernard Mevs Hospital for treatment and then transferred to St. Luc Hospital where he was scheduled for a CT scan. Returning to Bernard Mevs Hospital, he died;

4. On June 18, 2021, Emmanuel Silencieux JEANTY, a police inspector, was shot and killed on the Frères Road. The vehicle in which he was with others was riddled with bullets;

5. On June 29, 2021, Guerby GEFFRARD, from the 28th promotion, former spokesman of the Syndicate of the PNH (SPNH-17) was murdered by several bullets by armed individuals on motorcycles. He was in his vehicle in Delmas 32 at the time of his murder;

6. On July 8, 2021, Davidson JEAN-BAPTISTE, assigned to the Directorate of the Penitentiary Administration (DAP) was assassinated at the civil prison of Mirebalais by inmates trying to escape;

7. On July 9, 2021, James ADESCAR, Agent 4 from the 17th promotion, was murdered in Mon Repos 38, an area in the municipality of Carrefour;

8. On July 12, 2021, Michée Emmanuel JOSEPH FILS, Officer I assigned to the Border Police (POLIFRONT), was assassinated at Carrefour Rita, Clercine area, commune of Tabarre, by individuals traveling on motorcycles;
9. On July 13, 2021, Yves Henry POPILAIRE, from the 25th promotion, was killed in Delmas 33 by another policeman who was also wounded. He was assigned to the Departmental Unit of Maintenance of Order (UDMO);
10. On July 22, 2021, Guillaume GABRIEL, Police Inspector, was shot and killed at the Croix-des-Bouquets in unsolved circumstances;
11. On July 26, 2021, Wisley MEIDE aka Wiskey was murdered in Duvivier by unidentified individuals;
12. On August 3, 2021, Jean CLAUDE was shot and killed by armed bandits in unsolved circumstances;
13. On August 28, 2021, Marc-Arthur LOUIS was killed in an exchange of fire between police and armed bandits;
14. On September 1, 2021, the corpse of Daniel BLANC from the 26th promotion was found in La Saline, beheaded. He was first kidnapped on August 30, 2021, by bandits of the armed gang Krache Dife who wanted to avenge the death of their leader, Manilo TONNY;
15. On October 1, 2021, Exil MICHELET, from the 27th promotion, was killed in Martissant by armed bandits from the area;
16. On October 12, 2021, Jocelyn JEAN-PHILIPPE was assassinated in Cap-Haitien. He was assigned to the Departmental Unit of Policing (UDMO);
17. On October 16, 2021, Pierre Richard France ETIENNE alias Kelito from the 26th promotion, was assassinated on Cameau Street, at the time when a patrol of the Narcotic Trafficking Brigade (BLTS) with which he was with, was trying to foil a Kidnapping;
18. On October 28, 2021, Sergely CHAMPAGNE, who graduated from the 20th promotion, was murdered at Carrefour Marassa by bandits of the 400 Mawozo armed gang. The victim was assigned to the Departmental Unit of Maintenance of Order (UDMO);
19. On October 30, 2021, Obed JEAN-BAPTISTE, Officer III of the 18th promotion, was killed by hooded armed individuals. He was in a gallodrome in Pernier, commune of Pétion ville;
20. On November 20, 2021, police officer Fritz Gérald SANON, a Border Police officer (POLIFRONT) was killed in Nazon by unidentified heavily armed individuals;

21. On December 10, 2021, a bus on the Port-au-Prince - Cayes route was hijacked by armed bandits in Martissant. Fifty-two (52) people were on board, including one (1) policeman who was killed;
22. On the evening of December 10 to 11, 2021, Waglet RESIGNAC, divisional inspector, was murdered not far from his house in Tabarre;
23. On December 13, 2021, Jude Patiouco BRIMER, Agent I, was murdered in Pétion-ville, block Plaza 41, during a shootout;
24. On December 16, 2021, Jean Ketler NAU, from the 28th promotion, was shot three (3) times in the neck at Delmas 32. He died shortly after being admitted to Bernard Mevs Hospital;
25. On December 31, 2021, David MICHEL, agent I assigned to the civil prison of Croix des Bouquets was killed during a prisoner attempt to escape the prison;
26. On January 1, 2022, Dan Jerry TOUSSAINT, divisional inspector, in charge of the Thomassin sub-police station, received two (2) bullets during a patrol in the locality of Fessard. The vehicle he was in was riddled with bullets;
27. On January 19, 2022, Jean Ismagne AUGUSTE, police commissioner, was murdered at Croix des-Bouquets by armed bandits from the 400 Mawozo gang. They riddled his vehicle with bullets, also murdering his wife and wounding his daughter;
28. On January 29, 2022, Jean Nickson SAVERDIEU, alias Sonn, divisional inspector, was murdered by armed individuals at the corner of Avenue Christophe and Lalue. He held the position of Chief of Operations at the Departmental Unit for Maintaining Order (UDMO) - West;
29. On January 30, 2022, Diock Blada JOSEPH, Agent I, was murdered by unidentified armed individuals while he was stationed at the Bon Repos sub-police station;
30. On February 3, 2022, Myflaure FRANCE, Agent II, assigned to the Brigade for the Fight against Vehicle Theft (BLVV) was murdered in Canaan by armed bandits operating in the area;
31. On February 5, 2022, Andrécite JEUDY from the 22nd promotion was murdered in his vehicle on the road to Bourdon, by armed individuals wearing police uniform. Another person accompanying him was also killed;
32. On February 7, 2022, a policeman was killed during a clash between armed gangs in Martissant;
33. On February 18, 2022, a police officer known by the nickname of Pipo was kidnapped and held captive. A ransom of one hundred thousand (100,000) US dollars was demanded by his kidnappers. He was beheaded;

34. On February 23, 2022, around 10 p.m., Dave PIERRE assigned to the Corps of Intervention and Maintenance of Order (CIMO) was murdered in Delmas 41 by unidentified individuals, when he was returning to his house in Delmas 32 ;
35. On February 25, 2022, Maurice SYLAIN was murdered;
36. On March 1, 2022, Robert PLAISIMOND, Chief Commissioner, was murdered by unidentified bandits, in Tabarre, at the entrance to the area called Eddy One;
37. On March 4, 2022, Markenson BONTEMPS, from the 25th promotion, was forced to get off in Mariani, from the public transport vehicle in which he was, to be beheaded by armed bandits;
38. On March 4, 2022, Attis Well CASTILLO alias Louveyo, assigned to the Motorized Intervention Brigade (BIM), was shot dead by armed individuals in the Duval area. He was on a motorcycle;
39. On March 8, 2022, Henry Marc MILIANN assigned to the Brigade for the Fight against Vehicle Theft (BLVV) was abducted from his home by armed bandits operating in Canaan 5. He was murdered and his corpse soiled, was dragged through the streets before being found near the Bon Repos Community Hospital;
40. On March 18, 2022, Davickson DESIR was murdered at Carrefour;
41. On April 22, 2022, a police officer was murdered, and his remains burned at the Croix-des-Missions by armed bandits from the Chen Mechan base;
42. On May 12, 2022, at approximately 11 p.m., Guypson CELAN, from the 28th promotion, was killed in Lamentin 54;
43. On May 13, 2022, Alexander CHEVALIER, from the 19th promotion and assigned to the Motorize intervention Brigade (BIM) received several bullets while he was at Carrefour Drouillard, in Cité Soleil. He was rushed to a hospital, where he died shortly after his admission;
44. On May 27, 2022, Ketcham ANEUS, from the 14th promotion and assigned to the Departmental Unit of Policing (UDMO), was assassinated at the Croix-des-Bouquets where he worked in detachment with a mayor;
45. On May 31, 2022, Luckson MISERE, from the 24th promotion and assigned to the Departmental Unit of Maintenance of Order (UDMO) was riddled with bullets while he was in his vehicle between Pernier 16 and 17;
46. On June 6, 2022, Jude SEMELUS, from the 20th promotion and assigned to the Departmental Unit of Maintenance of Order (UDMO) was murdered by bullets in La Tremblay.

47. Beyond the funeral, there is no plan to assist the families of the police officers killed by the institution.

II. PHOTOS OF SOME MURDERED POLICE OFFICERS



Michée Emmanuel Joseph Fils, July 12 2021



Wisky, July 26 2021.



Pierre Richard Etienne, October 16, 2021



Marckson Bontemps March 4 2022



Dan Jerry Toussaint, January 1, 2022.



Dioc Blada, Joseph, January 30, 2022.



Pipo. February 18, 2022,



Dave Pierre, February 2022



Luckson Misère, May 31 2022.



Louveyo Castillo, March 4 2022.



Henry Marc Milians March 8 2022.



Davickson Désir March 18 2022



Alexander Chevalier Mai 13 2022.



Ketcham Aneus Mai 27 2022

III. POLICE STATIONS ATTACKED BY GUNMEN

48. From June 2021 to June 2022, armed bandits targeted several police stations, sub-stations, antennas, and stationary patrols of police officers. During this period, at least eleven (11) armed attacks were recorded:

- On June 17, 2021, the PNH garage, located on the former airstrip, was set on fire by armed bandits. On the same day, a fixed patrol of Intervention and Policing Corps (CIMO) officers was attacked in Delmas 2. Four (4) police officers were seriously injured. One (1) of them succumbed to his injuries;
- On June 17, 2021, a mobile patrol of the Central Directorate of Traffic Police (DCPR) was attacked in Delmas 6 by armed bandits led by Jimmy CHERIZIER aka Barbecue. She was returning from the DCPR premises when she suffered this attack;
- On June 24, 2021, the Portail Saint Joseph Sub-Commission was attacked by the Krache Dife base, then headed by Manilo TONNY.
- On June 25, 2021, Calvaire Sub-Commission was attacked by the 400 Mawozo gang;
- On the night of November 15-16, 2021, Pernier Sub-Commission was attacked by unidentified gunmen;
- On December 6, 2021, the Martissant sub-station, which had already been attacked several times, was attacked by the gang 5 seconds later. The building was riddled with bullets before being ransacked and partially burned down. It has since been occupied by armed bandits;
- On the night of January 30-31, 2022, the Bon Repos and Cesselesse sub-commissions were attacked by heavily armed bandits;
- On March 14, 2022, Canaan 1 police station was attacked in the morning by armed bandits operating in the area;
- On June 8, 2022, the Bourdon fixed patrol suffered an armed attack. One (1) officer seriously injured in the attack was taken to the hospital.

49. Most of these attacks were carried out by armed gangs belonging to the G-9 Fanmi e Alye, which benefit from the protection of state authorities.

IV. WORKING CONDITIONS OF THE PNH STAFF

50. Both in Port-au-Prince and in the provincial cities, the agents of the PNH do not have adequate or sufficient equipment to carry out their work properly:

51. Police officers in remote areas have no means of transportation. Some officers carry out on foot patrols, as is the case of the PNH officers assigned to the sub-commissariats of Marbial, Southeast and Furcy, West, for example. Others use public transit motorcycles to travel from one place to another.

52. The PNH officers do not have sufficient bulletproof vests, helmets, handcuffs, waterproof waxes, or ammunition. Most of the communication radios are defective and many patrol vehicles are down.

53. The buildings of many commissariats and sub-commissariats are in very poor condition. For example:

- The Cazeau, West Sub-Commission is often flooded during rainy seasons, the officers assigned to it, to take refuge on the top floor while waiting for the maintenance crew to clean the ground floor;
- The roofs of the police stations of Bahon, Nord and Maïssade, Centre being breached, the police officers assigned to them cannot work during the rains;
- The Miragoâne police station building, Nippes, built under the Duvalier regime, was seriously damaged by the earthquakes of January 12, 2010 and August 14, 2021. On March 4, 2022, the authorities had to temporarily transfer the said police station to the delegation of the Nippes, but no development work is recorded to date;
- The windows of the Furcy Sub-Commission, West, have been broken for some time, but have never been repaired. When it rains, the police officers assigned to it bar them with pieces of cardboard or plastic bags, to prevent the room from flooding.

54. Other difficulties were also reported to the RNDDH monitors:

- The sub-commissions in remote areas do not have support staff. It is up to the police officers – usually in insufficient numbers – to clean up the premises in question. Occasionally, community members volunteer to perform these tasks;
- At Maïssade, Centre, the police bathe in the river, located a hundred meters from the police station;

- Some police stations do not have dormitories for police officers. This is the case of the sub-commission of Pérédo, South-east where one of the two (2) custody cells is used for this purpose, by the police officers assigned to it;
- Some police stations, such as Pernier, West, do not have a dormitory for police officers, who are housed in mixed dormitories;
- Police dormitories are under-equipped. Often worn and dirty beds are insufficient.

55. It was also reported to the RNDDH that under the administration of Jovenel MOÏSE, in Council of Ministers, it was decided to subordinate any expenditure of the General Directorate of the PNH, exceeding fifty thousand (50,000) gourdes, to the approval of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. This is a decision that impedes the functioning of the police institution. Moreover, it should be recalled, the PNH is placed under the supervision of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

56. In addition, between 2019 and 2021, police officers including those of the SPNH-17 were subjected to acts of persecution, through decisions that were made against them. Some have been revoked, others have been incarcerated.

V. NATIONAL POLICE CENTRAL HOSPITAL

57. On January 4, 2021, the Central Hospital of the National Police located in Bon Repos, commune of the Croix-des-Bouquets, was partially inaugurated. Its modern premises, which have not yet been completed, include rooms equipped with at least one bed, chairs, an oxygen tank, and a small table. The emergency room is also well equipped. A sub-police station is attached to the building. And many facilities are not yet installed.



Equipements stockés

58. According to people met by the RNDDH, the initial plan was to build a hospital, designed and equipped to be autonomous and able to produce oxygen.

59. Immediately after its inauguration, the Central Hospital of the National Police had begun to receive patients of police officers. However, in July 2021, the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) had requisitioned the building to install a Corona Virus Treatment Centre. On December 31, 2021, staff accompanying those infected with Corona Virus left and handed over the keys.

60. Since 2022, no activity has been recorded on the hospital grounds. However, many ill and fractured police officers and others who are victims of police operations are struggling to get treatment. In addition, they have never stopped alerting about their health insurance coverage offered by the Office d'Assurance Accidents du Travail, Maladie et Maternité (OFATMA), which is far from being effective. In their own words, a police officer who does not have personal financial means, does not receive health care, even with the OFATMA health insurance card.



Climatiseurs non encore installés

VI. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

61. For several years, it is found that the police institution cannot face the difficulties faced by the Haitian population: insecurity is in full swing, the bandits are at the helm and all citizens are exposed, including the police themselves. They are murdered or kidnapped and held for ransom, police stations as well as fixed or mobile patrols are attacked by armed bandits, their vehicles are stolen, etc.

62. In fact, from June 17, 2021, to June 6, 2022, at least forty-four (44) PNH officers were murdered, twenty-one (21) of them, only from January 1 to June 6, 2022, an average of four (4) police officers per month. At least eleven (11) armed attacks of police stations and fixed or mobile patrols have been recorded. Thus, the National Police of Haiti (PNH) cannot fulfill its mission of «protecting lives and property», on its own behalf.

63. Beside all this, the conditions under which the agents of the PNH are called to work are unacceptable: insufficiency of intervention equipment, premises in poor condition, lack of vehicles on the one hand, ineffectiveness of insurance coverage-illness and inability to find necessary health care, on the other hand.

64. These difficult working conditions lead several officers to leave the ranks of the police institution. There are indeed many who, when they can, choose to take refuge elsewhere, without this appearing to alert the state authorities. For the month of April 2022 alone, about five hundred (500) cheques were returned to the personnel directorate of the PNH, for forwarding to the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the concerned having not presented themselves with a view to claiming them.

65. The police authorities met both at the level of the various departmental directorates and at the level of the General Inspection of the PNH, told the RNDDH to have a good knowledge of the difficulties facing the police institution. While for some departmental directorates, changes are being planned, to meet certain needs of police officers, for the General Inspection of the PNH,

Remedial measures are in the process of being operationalized to restore the image of the police institution, to improve the working conditions of PNH officers and to provide assistance to the families of the murdered police officers, beyond the funeral. However, between planning and operationalizing the changes, police officers continue to bear the brunt of the institution's wobbly operations.

66. Finally, although this aspect is not addressed in this document, it should be noted that cases of suicide are increasingly recorded in the ranks of the police institution.

67. Based on all of the above, the RNDDH recommends that State authorities:

- Provide sufficient and adequate means for police officers to carry out their duties such as weapons, ammunition, bulletproof vests, motorcycles, service vehicles, etc.;
- Cancel the decision taken in Council of Ministers to submit to the approval of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the expenses of the General Directorate of the PNH, exceeding fifty thousand (50.000) gourdes;
- Assist families of murdered police officers beyond the funeral;
- Rethinking police health coverage;
- Make the Central Hospital of the National Police operational;
- Put an end to the supply of weapons and ammunition to armed gangs that continually attack PNH agents in particular and the general population;
- Review police records against which arbitrary action was taken between 2019 and 2021.