

CICA Claims Explained For the Police

What is the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme?

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme is a fund of public money available to provide recompense to the blameless victims of violent crime.

While an award can never fully compensate for the mental or physical injuries suffered by victims, it is provided in recognition for public sympathy for their suffering. However it is important to note that the scheme, which is run by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA), does not cover legal costs and as such it is up to the applicant to cover any such fees out of their compensation.

Dealing with the exceptional risk

While many CICA claims are relatively straightforward, for police officers such claims can be far more complex. By the very nature of the job, police officers are at a higher risk of becoming a victim of a violent crime than a member of the general public. Unlike the general public, police officers have to deal on a daily basis, with situations such as stopping a vehicle for a minor traffic offence, attending at a domestic violence, arresting a shoplifter. All of these have the potential of turning violent.

Under the present rules if an officer is injured when undertaking one of these tasks, the CICA would regard this as a routine activity for which they have received specialist training. This means an officer would no longer receive any compensation, even if they have suffered an injury.

If an officer is injured whilst in the course of his duties, for example, whilst attempting to restrain an offender, he now has to demonstrate that the routine activity was both exceptional and justified to receive compensation.

The Fees

CICA cases are not processed through the courts therefore, “no win – no fee” arrangements are not available. However, we can provide financial support through a competitive Contingency Fee Arrangement (CFA)

A CFA means that should you lose, you will not have to pay anything other than disbursements. Disbursements are the expenses we have to pay out on your behalf.

If you win, you pay a pre-agreed fixed percentage of your compensation plus disbursements. You keep the rest.

Why Use Linder Myers

We have a large team of dedicated lawyers specialising in issues affecting police officers and members of the Police family.

We are committed to delivering the very best possible service at a competitive price.

We work closely with clients to take the strain out of the legal process.

Distance is not an issue as we offer a number of ways that you can appoint us including a postal service, telephone service, Skype and face to face meetings

Contact Linder Myers – place your trust in a specialist lawyer.



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