



IJM

IJM CASEWORK SERIES

POLICE ABUSE OF POWER



In many places, police not only fail to protect people in poverty from violence, but they are perpetrators of violence themselves.

When police are professional and have the trust of the public, they are able to provide protection to the most vulnerable in society. But millions of people in the world live in fear of police who extort bribes and brutalize innocent citizens. Parents often teach their children to run away from police, rather than going to them for help.

In Kenya, police officers can abuse their positions by taking advantage of the people they have taken oath to serve and protect. While most police officers take their pledge seriously, in many instances police not only fail to protect vulnerable people from violence, but are perpetrators themselves.

QUICK FACTS

Every year, about **10 million people worldwide enter pre-trial detention**—held in prison without any proceedings to determine their guilt or innocence.¹

684 people have been killed by police since 2019.²

In nearly **2 out of every 3 felony cases**, police never gathered enough evidence to charge an alleged offender.³



Sentencing of Police Who Murdered IJM Staff, Client, Driver

After more than six years, four people were sentenced for the murder of Willie, Joseph and Josephat. This sentence is a major step toward police accountability in Kenya.

¹ Open Society Foundations, ² Missing Voices, 2022, ³ IPOA

OUR IMPACT AROUND THE WORLD



520+

Victims relieved from Police Abuse of Power



80

Age of IJM's oldest client, who was declared innocent after three years wrongfully on death row



45

Police officers convicted for violent crimes in IJM Kenya and partner cases



WHERE WE WORK AGAINST
POLICE ABUSE OF POWER



Kenya

Nairobi

OUR SOLUTION

In the face of abuse, IJM and our partners collaborate with local authorities to build communities where all people can expect to be safe and protected. Together, we:

Strengthen Justice Systems

We partner with government agencies to build effective oversight of the police. Together, we design improvements that serve survivors of police violence and deter other officers from abusing their power.

Rescue and Restore Victims

We identify people who are falsely accused of crimes or have survived police violence and provide legal representation to exonerate them or pursue accountability for abusive officers. During and after the trial, we provide survivors and their families support ranging from trauma counseling to physical security.

Bring Criminals to Justice

We work alongside law enforcement to ensure adequate evidence is collected to build a strong case against officers who abuse their power, and we support survivors who choose to share the truth in court.

Scale Demand for Protection

We convene and equip champions—from grassroots community leaders and survivors of violence to global corporations and development institutions—to call on governments to protect vulnerable communities.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION

Kenya

IJM is supporting a group of survivor leaders in Kenya called the 'Kenya Champions for Justice.' These leaders advocate publicly against police violence and share their experiences during trainings with officials to lend their expertise to reform efforts



JOIN US

Help us make justice unstoppable. Use your time, talents and passion to help protect people in poverty from violence today.

Join us at [IJM.org/Get-Involved](https://www.ijm.org/Get-Involved)



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INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION is a global organization that protects people in poverty from violence.

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