

CICA Claims FAQ



What is the CICA?

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority compensates victims of violent crimes from the public purse. The award is a gesture of public sympathy for being an innocent victim of a violent crime resulting in injury.

Can I claim as a police officer?

You can, but it's not always straight forward. If you are directly assaulted then normally an application for compensation is accepted. However, if you were injured in a skirmish whilst making an arrest, it is quite possible your application will be rejected as the CICA perceive dealing with a person resisting arrest to be a part of your duties.

Who makes the claim?

Contact your local Police Federation branch who can submit a claim for you or you can do it yourself.

What happens if my application is rejected?

That's where we come in. Your Police Federation branch will complete the necessary forms for us to be instructed to act for you. We can advise on whether asking the CICA to review their decision will succeed and what you need to do next. We can submit the review request for you and take over from there.

What if the CICA refuse to change their mind?

We can advise you on whether an appeal needs to be made to a Tribunal and if an appeal is likely to succeed. If an appeal is made and accepted by the Tribunal you will eventually need to attend a hearing and we'll arrange for Counsel to represent you at that hearing.

The CICA accept I am eligible but are not making an award, why?

There could be a number of reasons. The CICA operate an award tariff system. The tariff lists all the different injuries they compensate for and the fixed award for those injuries. The awards are non-negotiable and some injuries, like a broken little finger, are not in the tariff at all so do not attract an award. If you suffered multiple minor injuries, there is no award. Sometimes the CICA get it wrong and offer an award in the wrong tariff. It may be that specific medical evidence is required to prove the injuries sustained. We can advise you accordingly.

How long does a claim take?



A very long time is the simple answer. The CICA are like any other publicly funded organisation. Their resources are stretched and consequently they have backlogs. We often don't hear from them for months at a time and therefore there is no reason to contact you. However, rest assured it is not because we aren't dealing with your claim. Also the more serious the injury, generally, the longer it takes.

Who can I contact at Slater & Gordon for advice?

You can contact Jo Pridham in our Cardiff office on 02921 921927 or email jo.pridham@slaterguson.co.uk; or

Nick Collins on 02921 921814 or email nick.collins@slaterguson.co.uk.