

November 29, 2017

WPS officer faces charge following IIU investigation into excessive force used on youth

A member of the Winnipeg Police Service will be charged with assault, following an IIU investigation into whether the officer used excessive force during the arrest of a 12-year-old male.

The IIU issued its initial news release on September 29, 2017, advising it had launched an investigation into an allegation that, on August 7, 2017, the officer had used excessive force. The youth was not injured, but the IIU Civilian Director determined it was in the public interest for the agency to investigate.

The IIU has conducted a thorough and independent investigation into the circumstances of the incident, and Civilian Director Zane Tessler has determined there are reasonable and probable grounds to believe a criminal offence occurred.

On November 28, the WPS constable, a member of the force for 16 years, met with IIU investigators and was notified of the impending charge. He was issued an appearance notice and will appear in Provincial Court in Winnipeg on January 17, 2018.

As this matter is now before the Court, the IIU will not make any further comment on its investigation.

The IIU investigates all serious incidents involving police officers in Manitoba, whether occurring on or off duty. For more information about the IIU, visit www.iiumanitoba.ca.

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