

June 4, 2018

IIU investigates alleged assault causing hearing loss Incident involved off-duty officer

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has taken over the investigation of an incident that occurred last year involving the alleged assault of a 32-year-old male by an off-duty member of the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS).

On April 10, 2018, the Winnipeg Police Service notified the IIU that it had recently received a complaint from a man who alleged that a year earlier—on March 27, 2017— during the course of an arrest, an off-duty officer punched and kned him, causing a number of head injuries. He was subsequently released with no charges and sought medical attention.

The IIU was monitoring the WPS investigation into this incident. When it was determined the man may have sustained permanent hearing loss as a result of the incident, the IIU assumed conduct of the investigation as hearing loss is defined as a serious injury under regulations and the agency is mandated to investigate.

The investigation is ongoing, so no further details will be provided at this time. The IIU investigates all serious incidents involving police officers in Manitoba, whether occurring on or off duty.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:
Barbara Czech
Communications, Independent Investigation Unit
204-803-9644
bczech@mts.net

Information on the IIU can be found at www.iiumanitoba.ca or at www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba