

IIU concludes investigation into a serious injury during an arrest in Winnipeg

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into a serious injury sustained by an adult male during an arrest by Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) officers.

On Sept. 23, 2023, WPS notified the IIU of an incident that had occurred the previous day. According to the notification, at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 22, WPS officers responded to a call for service in the 3300 block of Portage Avenue following multiple reports of a male armed with a hatchet. Officers located the affected person climbing inside a clothing donation bin. When officers pulled the male from the bin, he resisted arrest. A brief use-of-force encounter ensued. The male was taken into custody and transferred to WPS headquarters. The paramedic on duty directed the male required medical attention and he was taken to Grace Hospital for treatment. The doctor indicated the male likely suffered a minor rib fracture.

As this matter concerned a serious injury as defined under the IIU regulations, the IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 66(4) of the Police Services Act.

One subject officer and four witness officers were designated. Investigators also obtained statements from five civilian witnesses.

In considering all the circumstances, the civilian director concluded the actions of the subject officer were reasonable. Therefore, the IIU investigation is completed and the matter is now closed.

The civilian director's complete report is available at www.iumanitoba.ca.

The details of the investigation were first announced on Sept. 25, 2023.

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