

February 27, 2024
Case Number: 2024-0015

IIU investigating Winnipeg arrest involving deployment of less-lethal firearm

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) is investigating the circumstances surrounding the arrest of an adult male in Winnipeg.

On Feb. 26, the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) notified the IIU of an incident that resulted in an injury requiring medical attention. According to the notification, on Feb. 26 at approximately 12:23 p.m., WPS officers attended the first block of Worthington Avenue to arrest an adult male on five outstanding warrants. As officers arrived, the male discharged a weapon and refused to leave the home. After some time, officers noticed smoke and flames coming from the west side of the residence. Shortly after the fire started, the adult male exited the house. While attempting to arrest the male, a use-of-force encounter occurred, resulting in the discharge of a less-lethal firearm. The male was struck with bean bag rounds in the upper torso and taken into custody without further incident. The male was subsequently transported to Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg for treatment, where it was confirmed, he had suffered bruising to his torso and smoke inhalation.

Given the injuries were caused by the deployment of a firearm, they meet the definition of a serious injury under the IIU regulations and the IIU is mandated to investigate.

Witnesses or individuals who have information or video footage that may assist the investigation are asked to contact the IIU toll-free at 1-844-667-6060.

The investigation is ongoing so no further details will be provided at this time.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:

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