

IIU concludes investigation into potential injuries related to arrest in Winnipeg

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into the circumstances surrounding the arrest of an adult female in Winnipeg.

On Aug. 5, 2024, the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) notified the IIU of possible injuries sustained during an arrest on Aug. 3, 2024. According to the notification, on Aug. 3, 2024, at approximately 10:32 p.m., officers were dispatched to the area of Des Meurons Street and Goulet Street for the report of a female who appeared to be intoxicated and lying on the ground. Officers noted numerous visible facial injuries and called the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS). During the medical examination, the female assaulted WFPS personnel. Officers detained the female under the Intoxicated Persons Detention Act and transported her to the Main Street Project, where she assaulted officers and a use-of-force encounter occurred. The female was placed under arrest and transported to WPS headquarters, where she tried to bite one of the officers and a second use-of-force encounter ensued. The woman was later released from police custody on a notice to appear.

On Aug. 5, 2024, at approximately 10:15 p.m., officers arrested the same female at a residence in the first block of Morrow Avenue after she had been in a verbal and physical dispute with the homeowner. Emergency personnel stationed at WPS headquarters directed officers to take the female for further medical examination to Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg, where a doctor noted a pre-existing spinal injury and numerous facial fractures.

As this matter concerned potential injuries during an arrest, the IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 75(1) of the Police Services Act. IIU investigators were assigned to this investigation. The civilian director designated two subject officers and two witness officers. A civilian witness provided a statement and investigators also spoke with the affected person.

Following due consideration of all the circumstances, the civilian director will not be authorizing charges. Therefore, the IIU investigation is now complete and the matter is closed.

As an affected person remains before the court on charges arising from the incident, the civilian director's report on the incident will not be made available until those charges are disposed.

The details of the investigation were first announced on Aug. 6, 2024.

- 30 -

Media inquiries may be directed to:
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Information on the IIU can be found at www.iiumanitoba.ca or at
www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba.