

November 17, 2023 Case number: 2019-0082

IIU concludes investigation into serious injury related to WPS arrest

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into the circumstances surrounding the arrest of an adult male by the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) that resulted in him sustaining a serious injury.

On Dec. 19, 2019, the WPS advised the IIU of an incident that occurred at approximately 5:44 a.m. that same day. Officers were responding to a call for service on Ellice Avenue. Upon arrival, it was determined that a male needed medical attention.

While attempting to transport him to the hospital, the male became belligerent, a struggle ensued with attending officers and force was used to arrest him. The male was subsequently conveyed to Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg, where he was treated for a fractured orbital socket and admitted for observation.

As this matter concerned a serious injury under IIU regulations, the IIU assumed responsibility for this mandatory investigation in accordance with Sec. 65(4) of the Police Services Act. IIU investigators were assigned to this investigation.

The civilian director designated one subject officer and one witness officer. IIU investigators interviewed the witness officer and two paramedics as professional witnesses.

The civilian director at the time found no reasonable grounds to support any charges against the subject officer. Accordingly, this matter is now closed.

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

The details of this investigation were first announced on Dec. 23, 2019.

-30-

Media inquiries may be directed to: Communications and Engagement newsroom@gov.mb.ca

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