

October 3, 2023 Case Number: 2021-0042

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 Sept. 8, 2021, WPS notified the IIU of an incident that had occurred on Sept. 7 at approximately 2:52 a.m. According to the notification, officers attended a residence on Mathers Avenue in response to a call for service regarding a domestic assault. The male suspect had fled the residence and was located on Waverley Street. The suspect refused to comply with verbal directions given by the attending WPS officers and became increasingly agitated. A struggle ensued and force was used to subdue him.

The male was transported to Health Sciences Centre (HSC) Winnipeg, treated and then released into police custody for processing. WPS was later advised by HSC that the male had sustained an orbital fracture.

As a fracture of this nature is defined as a serious injury under the IIU regulations, the IIU assumed responsibility for this mandatory investigation in accordance with section 65(4) of the Police Services Act (PSA).

Investigators were assigned to this investigation and reviewed the following materials:

- call history;
- Forensic Identification Service (FIS) victim injury report, showing injuries of the civilian witness;
- FIS victim injury report, showing injuries of the affected person;
- prisoner log sheet;
- medical release from HSC;
- compact disc (CD) containing an audio recording of the radio communication between the involved units and dispatch;
- use of force report;
- narrative and notes of witness officers; and
- CD containing photos of the affected person's injuries.

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The civilian director designated two subject officers and four witness officers. IIU investigators met with the affected person and two civilian witnesses. Investigators also consulted with the chief medical examiner for the province to obtain medical opinions on the likely cause of the affected person's injury.

The civilian director found no reasonable grounds to support any charges against the subject officers.

Accordingly, this matter is now closed. The civilian director's complete report is available online at <u>www.iiumanitoba.ca</u>.

The details of the investigation were first announced on Sept. 13, 2021.

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

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