

FINAL REPORT: IIU concludes investigation into child abuse allegations

On June 22, 2015, the Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) was formally notified by the RCMP about allegations of physical assault involving a member and his child (the affected person). The allegation was made to the RCMP by the member's ex-wife (the complainant), who is the child's mother.

The allegations involved the conduct of an off-duty police officer and did not allege a serious injury or any of the prescribed offences as set out in IIU regulation 99/2015. However, the IIU assumed jurisdiction over this investigation as it was considered by the civilian director to be in the public interest. This decision is permitted by sections 73 and 74 of *The Police Services Act*.

On June 25, 2015, the RCMP member was personally served with the appropriate form and designated as the "subject officer" of this investigation.

The purpose of the investigation was to determine the facts of the case and whether there are reasonable and probable grounds to justify laying any charges against the subject officer.

The IIU investigators reviewed all relevant family court related materials and police reports. They also conducted interviews with four civilian witnesses (including the complainant and the affected person) and met with representatives from Child and Family Services. As outlined under *The Police Services Act*, a subject officer is not required to provide a statement or notes regarding the incident. The subject officer declined the opportunity to meet with investigators and provide a statement. A fifth civilian witness also declined to be interviewed.

The investigation has been concluded and all available evidence provided to the civilian director.

The evidence in this investigation is fraught with significant discrepancies. Evidence from each civilian witness significantly contradicts information provided by other civilian witnesses. Some of the evidence of the complainant and affected person is also contradictory. Material information that the complainant had promised to provide investigators at an initial meeting on June 22, 2015 has not been presented to date.

Since the IIU investigation began, the affected person has returned to the care and custody of the subject officer. CFS has not intervened to change this custodial arrangement and did not make any attempts to seize the affected person at any time.

In summary, the IIU has not found reasonable and probable grounds to support laying any charges against the subject officer and has concluded its investigation.

Final report prepared by:

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