

IIU concludes investigation into a serious injury during an arrest by Winnipeg Police Service

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into a serious injury during an arrest by Winnipeg Police Service (WPS).

On Aug. 17, 2023, WPS notified the IIU of an incident that had occurred the previous day. According to the notification, at approximately 5 a.m. on Aug. 16, WPS officers were called to a parking lot in the 1500 block of Regent Avenue West regarding a report of a domestic-related disturbance. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the female victim and learned that her ex-boyfriend had a court order preventing him from being in contact or communication with her. Officers attempted to speak with the male, but he attempted to flee on foot and then adopted a fighting stance. Officers deployed their energy weapons to effect the arrest of the male causing him to fall. Unable to brace himself, the man fell on his left side directly onto the pavement. Officers called emergency medical services (EMS). The male was transported by ambulance to Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg, where he was diagnosed with a facial fracture and a fractured rib.

The IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 66(4) of the Police Services Act. Two subject officers and four witness officers were designated. Investigators also obtained a statement from a civilian witness.

Following due consideration of all the circumstances and evidence, the civilian director concluded that the officers were in the lawful execution of their duties and their use of force was reasonable. Therefore, no charges are recommended against any of the subject officers. The IIU investigation is completed, and the matter is now closed.

As an affected person remains before the court on charges arising from the incident, the civilian director's report on the incident will be made available once those charges are disposed.

The details of the investigation were first announced on Aug. 18, 2023.

- 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