

IIU concludes investigation into arrest resulting in injury in Winnipeg

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into an arrest resulting in an injury in Winnipeg.

On Jan. 27, the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) notified the IIU of an incident that had occurred the day before. According to the notification, on Jan. 26, at approximately 6:02 p.m., WPS was notified of a commercial robbery at a shopping mall on McPhillips Street. The male was reportedly armed with an axe and fled from the mall. He then entered a taxicab and assaulted the driver. Officers arrived on scene and attempted to arrest the male. He fled and ran through the parking lot. A second police vehicle arrived, and the male made contact with the police vehicle while it was in motion. The male was taken into custody and was conveyed to the Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg, where it was determined that his ankle was fractured and he required admission to the hospital for surgery.

The Civilian Director of the IIU determined it was in the public interest for the IIU to investigate this matter, and the IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with section 73(1) of the Police Services Act. IIU investigators were assigned to this investigation. The civilian director designated one subject officer and three witness officers.

Following due consideration of all the circumstances, the civilian director has concluded that the male slid into the police vehicle and that the police did not intentionally hit him with their vehicle. Therefore, no charges are recommended against the subject officer. 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 Jan. 29.

- 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.