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IIU concludes investigation into perjury allegation against a WPS officer

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into the circumstances surrounding an allegation of perjury against a Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) officer.

On May 30, 2019, WPS informed the IIU of an incident on Dec. 26, 2014, which became the subject of civil court proceedings. Those proceedings resulted in a judgment on May 27, 2019, which found that WPS officers had caused damages and injuries to the various plaintiffs. Monetary awards were imposed.

An allegation of perjury against one of the WPS officers arose out of this Court of Queen's Bench judgment. The IIU was mandated to investigate and investigators were assigned. Those investigators interviewed seven civilian witnesses and consulted with the plaintiffs' lawyer. Other information obtained by IIU investigators included:

- officers' notes and reports
- arrest reports
- use of force reports
- civilian witness statements
- audio recordings of 911 calls
- audio recordings of WPS communications
- iPad and cellphone videos
- examinations for discovery transcripts
- trial transcripts

Following a full review of the investigative file, the civilian director was satisfied that grounds to lay a perjury charge existed. However, in discussion with Manitoba Prosecution Services (MPS), it was agreed that the file be forwarded to MPS for a full review on whether a reasonable likelihood of conviction existed. Subsequent to that review, MPS advised IIU that a conviction was unlikely, and it would not proceed with any prosecution against the subject officer.

The investigation is now complete and the matter is closed. The civilian director's complete report is available online at www.iumanitoba.ca. The details of this investigation were first announced on May 31, 2019.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:
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Information on the IIU can be found at www.iumanitoba.ca or at www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba