

January 28, 2019

IIU concludes investigation into injuries sustained by male during arrest by WPS officers

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into an incident in which a man sustained injuries during his arrest by two members of the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS). Neither officer will face any charges as a result of the incident.

The injury occurred after police were called to a west end restaurant around 3:30 a.m. on February 7, 2016. Police arrested the man for refusal to leave the premises, then released him. After the man began recording officers with his cell phone, a scuffle occurred and the man's left arm was twisted and injured.

The man complained to WPS Professional Standards Unit, which launched an investigation. IIU monitored the case. However, in October 2016, WPS advised IIU the man's arm had in fact been fractured. As this is a serious injury as defined by regulations, the IIU took over the investigation.

In conducting their work, IIU investigators were aided by interviews with nine witness officers and five civilian witnesses, as well as the man's cell phone video and medical records.

The completed IIU investigation file was sent to Manitoba Prosecution Service for review and advice. Manitoba Prosecution Service advised the charging standard was not met and there was no reasonable likelihood either officer would be convicted of a Criminal Code offence. Based on this advice, neither officer will face charges.

The Civilian Director's complete report is available online at www.iiumanitoba.ca. The details of this investigation were first announced on October 25, 2016.

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