

March 7, 2019

IIU concludes investigation into collision between suspect and WPS cruiser

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into an incident in which a man was struck and injured by a police cruiser as he attempted to run from officers. It has concluded no charges should be brought against the Winnipeg Police Service officer driving the car.

On the afternoon of October 24, 2018, two WPS officers were in pursuit of a male, wanted on an arrest warrant, in the area of Burrows Avenue and Salter Street. One officer pursued the man on foot while the other officer attempted to intercept him in a marked police vehicle. As he ran from police, he collided with their vehicle. He was arrested and transported to hospital, where he was diagnosed with a fractured pelvis.

As this matter involved a serious injury, the IIU was mandated to investigate.

The IIU investigation found the driver of the police vehicle was operating the car at low speeds as she searched for the man, and he was concentrating on avoiding his foot pursuer when he ran into the vehicle. In his report on the investigation, IIU Civilian Director Zane Tessler found the collision was unavoidable and accidental and there was no evidence the officer intended to cause the man any harm or injury.

The man faces outstanding charges related to this incident. The complete report on the IIU investigation will be posted online once those charges are dealt with by the courts.

The details of this investigation were first announced on October 26, 2018.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:
Barbara Czech
Communications, Independent Investigation Unit 204-803-9644
bczech@mts.net