

March 2, 2017

RCMP officer charged following IIU investigation into officer-involved shooting in Thompson

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into an officer-involved shooting and death in Thompson, Manitoba which concerned an on-duty RCMP officer.

The IIU issued its initial news release on November 21, 2015, advising that it had launched an investigation of a pursuit and traffic stop during which an RCMP officer discharged his firearm, resulting in the death of the male driver and serious injuries to a female passenger.

The IIU has conducted a thorough and independent investigation into the circumstances of this incident. IIU Civilian Director Zane Tessler, in consultation with Manitoba Prosecutions Service, has determined there are reasonable grounds to believe criminal offences occurred.

On March 1, 2017, Constable Abram Letkeman was arrested and charged with:

- one count of manslaughter;
- one count of criminal negligence causing death;
- one count of reckless discharge of a firearm;
- one count of criminal negligence causing bodily harm;
- one count of dangerous driving causing bodily harm;
- one count of dangerous driving

All counts are criminal offences under the Criminal Code of Canada.

Constable Letkeman has been released on bail with conditions to appear at Provincial Court in Thompson at 10:00 a.m. on March 31, 2017.

As this matter is now before the courts, the IIU will not make any further comment on its investigation.

The IIU investigates all serious incidents involving police officers in Manitoba, whether occurring on or off duty. For more information about the IIU, visit www.iiumanitoba.ca.



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