

Oct. 22, 2012

ASIRT investigation is concluded and no charges will be laid against Edmonton police officers

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) has concluded its investigation into an incident involving members of the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) in August 2011.

On August 28, 2011, three uniformed members of the EPS were responding to 911 complaints at a business address in downtown Edmonton. The calls to police indicated that there was a confrontation taking place between two males and that one of them had, what was believed to be, a meat hook. Police arrived on-scene and while dealing with one of the males, a confrontation occurred between the man and officers. The 60-year old male was then arrested and transported to the EPS Downtown Division holding cells.

On September 2, 2011, ASIRT was assigned to investigate the actions of the officers after the arrested male alleged three separate use of force concerns against the responding officers, pertaining to occurrences at the business location, police vehicle and within police holding cells.

ASIRT investigators conducted an independent and objective investigation into the allegations made against the EPS members. The investigation included interviews with the affected person, review of the EPS file and information from witnesses. Videotape (without audio) from the affected person's business was also supplied and assisted in reviewing the actions of the officers on August 28. Upon conclusion of the investigation and review by ASIRT Executive Director Clif Purvis, the file was forwarded to the Calgary Crown Prosecutor's Office for review.

A comprehensive review of the file was conducted by Alberta Justice. Their opinion was that the three subject officers identified in the ASIRT investigation should not be charged with any criminal offences. As a result, no charges will be laid.

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Sarah Jackson
Alberta Serious Incident Response Team
780-819-1298