



December 21, 2009

ASIRT investigation results in charges against RCMP officer

Edmonton... An RCMP member has been charged with assault causing bodily harm and obstruction of justice as the result of a September 13 incident in the Lac La Biche RCMP detachment cell area where a man was injured while in custody.

RCMP Constable Desmond Sandboe, an eight-year member of the RCMP, was charged on December 18. The charges were laid following an independent investigation into the incident by the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT). After reviewing the investigative report, Clifton Purvis the director of ASIRT, determined that charges against the officer were warranted.

Sandboe has been released on a Promise-To-Appear with conditions not to contact the complainant in this incident. He is scheduled to appear in Lac La Biche court on January 25, 2010.

The RCMP provided complete cooperation to ASIRT investigators.

ASIRT is a provincially funded unit lead by a civilian director. It is mandated to effectively, independently and objectively investigate incidents involving Alberta's police that have resulted in serious injury or death to any person as well as sensitive allegations of police misconduct.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:

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