



Report to the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General Public Fatality Inquiry

Fatality Inquiries Act

WHEREAS a Public Inquiry was held at the _____ Law Courts
 in the _____ City _____ of _____ Edmonton _____, in the Province of Alberta,
(City, Town or Village) (Name of City, Town, Village)
 on the _____ 24 and 25 _____ day of _____ September _____, _____ 2019 _____, (and by adjournment
year
 on the _____ 28 _____ day of _____ October _____, _____ 2019 _____),
year
 before _____ Janet L. Dixon _____, a Provincial Court Judge,
 into the death of _____ Vitaly Savin _____ 55 _____
(Name in Full) (Age)
 of _____ Edmonton, Alberta _____ and the following findings were made:
(Residence)

Date and Time of Death: _____ March 9, 2017 at 1355h _____

Place: _____ Edmonton, Alberta _____

Medical Cause of Death:

("cause of death" means the medical cause of death according to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death as last revised by the International Conference assembled for that purpose and published by the World Health Organization – *Fatality Inquiries Act*, Section 1(d)).

Gunshot wound of the head

Manner of Death:

("manner of death" means the mode or method of death whether natural, homicidal, suicidal, accidental, unclassifiable or undeterminable – *Fatality Inquiries Act*, Section 1(h)).

Homicidal

Overview:

1. The purpose of a fatality inquiry is set out in section 53 of the *Fatality Inquiries Act (Act)*. A judge is appointed to conduct the inquiry in public and must make the following findings:
 - a. Identity of the deceased;
 - b. The date, time and place of death;
 - c. The circumstances under which the death occurred;
 - d. The cause of death; and
 - e. The manner of death.
2. The *Act* permits the judge conducting an inquiry to make recommendations as to the prevention of similar deaths, subject to the following limitations:
 - a. No finding may be made regarding legal responsibility;
 - b. No conclusions in law may be reached; and
 - c. Any recommendations must be related to the death.
3. The design of the *Act* is to undertake the inquiry after all other processes arising from the death, other than civil matters, are complete.
4. The *Act* provides standing to the next of kin and the personal representative of the deceased to cross-examine witnesses and present arguments and submissions. Section 49(2)(d) of the *Act* permits other parties who claim to have a direct and substantial interest in the subject matter of the inquiry to appear with leave of the judge. The partner of Mr. Savin, Ms. T, assisted by an interpreter, participated in the inquiry as a matter of right. The Edmonton Police Service (EPS), having established it had a direct and substantial interest in the subject matter, also participated in the inquiry.

Pre-Inquiry Processes:

5. Mr. Savin was shot by Constable Wood and died on March 9, 2017.
6. The EPS immediately commenced an investigation through its Professional Standards Branch to determine whether the use of force was justified in the circumstances and whether there were any apparent breaches of EPS policy.
7. The same day, pursuant to Section 46.1 of the *Police Act*, the Director of Law Enforcement for the Province of Alberta directed the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) to investigate as the incident involved the death of Mr. Savin resulting from the actions of Constable Wood.
8. The Chief Medical Examiner conducted an autopsy of the body of Mr. Savin on March 10, 2017. He issued his final Autopsy Report on April 12, 2017. The Autopsy Report prepared by the Chief Medical Examiner and all evidence gathered in the conduct of the autopsy was provided to this inquiry.
9. ASIRT provided its final opinion to the EPS by letter dated October 17, 2018. Based on its investigation, ASIRT concluded there was no reasonable suspicion to believe the constable involved had committed any *Criminal Code* offence. The ASIRT Final Report was completed November 9, 2017. The Final Report prepared by ASIRT and all evidence gathered by the investigators was provided to this inquiry.
10. On December 14, 2018, the EPS Professional Standards Branch concluded its investigation into the conduct of Constable Wood, finding the use of force was justified in law, did not amount to misconduct and there were no apparent breaches in EPS policy. The matter was formally closed on January 8, 2019.
11. The Fatality Review Board reviewed the Medical Examiner's Case file in this matter and recommended that a public fatality inquiry be held to restore public confidence. Pre-inquiry conferences were held prior to the commencement of the hearing September 24, 2019.
12. The inquiry received evidence on September 24 and 25, 2019. Eight witnesses testified and several hundred pages of exhibits were entered. Final argument was completed in October 2019.

Circumstances under which Death occurred:

Summary

13. The EPS became involved in the events leading to the death of Mr. Savin upon receiving 911 calls from two separate motorists reporting a possible impaired driver. The motorists provided a matching vehicle description, license plate number and description of the driver. One of the motorists followed the vehicle until he saw it stopped in a residential cul-de-sac and saw a police vehicle arrive. He left immediately and did not witness any subsequent events.
14. EPS Constable Wood was by himself in the responding police vehicle. He parked within in a few feet of the vehicle with the front of his car facing the front of the stopped vehicle. The vehicle matched the description and stopped at the location provided by his dispatcher. There was one occupant sitting in the driver's seat. Upon Constable Wood's approach, the individual exited the vehicle. Due to the behavior of the individual, Constable Wood called for backup. The individual then produced a hunting knife and advanced on Constable Wood who tried to back away to get distance from the individual. In the process, Constable Wood fell on the snow-covered roadway. The individual continued to advance and was above him gesturing with the knife while the Constable was on his back on the roadway. Constable Wood used his feet to try to kick back the individual in the chest and to kick away the knife from the individual's right hand. The individual continued to advance at him. Constable Wood was able to kick the individual away for a moment, providing enough time for him to unholster his police service handgun. As the individual advanced on him again, while he was still lying on his back on the roadway, Constable Wood discharged his police service handgun four times, each bullet striking the individual. The individual died from one of the gunshot wounds which struck him in the head. The entire incident unfolded in less than three minutes. The individual was later identified as Vitaly Savin.
15. All of the evidence has been carefully considered in this inquiry. In particular, considering the circumstances and the expressed concerns of Ms. T and others who participated in the ASIRT investigation, this inquiry specifically considered the following areas:
 - a. Were there reasonable alternatives to the use of lethal force by Constable Wood in response to the actions of Mr. Savin;
 - b. Was Russian racism a factor in Mr. Savin's death; and
 - c. Were appropriate steps taken to assist Mr. Savin after he was shot, prior to the arrival of Emergency Medical Services?

Detailed Chronology

16. At 1330h on March 9, 2019, a 911 operator received calls from two motorists reporting the same concern of an impaired driver operating his van heading eastbound on Whitemud Drive in Edmonton. More information was provided from each caller, including the route of the vehicle, a description of the vehicle, the license plate number and a description of the driver. The information was consistent; each motorist appeared to be describing the same vehicle.
17. The 911 call was forwarded to the police dispatcher who called for a unit to investigate at 1331h. Constable Wood responded to the call immediately.
18. One of the two 911 callers continued to follow the van as it travelled off Whitemud Drive into a residential area. The caller who followed the van, saw it come to a stop in a cul-de-

sac of a residential area. The caller waited at the scene watching the van until 1343h when a police car arrived and he saw the officer started to get out of his vehicle. He then drove away and did not witness any subsequent events.

19. Constable Wood gave the following testimony regarding the unfolding of events:
- a. He had been an EPS constable since May 2011. Prior to joining the EPS he was a constable in England for nine years.
 - b. On March 9, 2017, he was working a shift from 1100h to 2200h. The weather was very cold. Main roadways were sanded and graded but some residential roads were snowy and icy.
 - c. He was working on his own in a patrol cruiser.
 - d. He was wearing his full patrol gear uniform, except for his body armour vest. He had decided not to wear it that day as he was suffering from a sore back. He acknowledged this was in breach of EPS requirement to wear the vest when on duty.
 - e. He was equipped with his radio, police service handgun, magazines, OC spray (pepper spray), a baton and handcuffs.
 - f. He described OC spray as an incapacitating spray, used as an intermediary weapon, to distract or incapacitate a subject.
 - g. He described a baton as an extendable weapon used as a striking weapon.
 - h. He was not equipped with a taser, nor was he trained to operate a taser.
 - i. He was wearing standard winter issue foot wear.
 - j. He was dispatched at 1331h to a complaint regarding a suspected impaired driver. It was a high priority call, given a member of the public was following a suspected impaired driver.
 - k. He was provided the description of the vehicle, the license plate and a description of the driver. He was told the vehicle was a purple van.
 - l. It took approximately 13 minutes to reach the location where the van had stopped. He recognized the van by its description. It had come to a stop pulling to the curb in a residential cul-de-sac. He parked his patrol vehicle directly in front of the van with the front bumpers facing each other. He did not activate his lights or siren. The vehicle had already stopped and he uses lights and sirens to cause a vehicle to stop, which was unnecessary in this circumstance.
 - m. As Constable Wood approached the van the driver opened the driver's door and started to get out. He instructed the driver to stay in the vehicle, but the driver did not follow the direction and exited the vehicle standing outside the driver's door. Constable Wood came around the open driver's door and stood approximately one meter from the driver. At this time Constable Wood was standing to the left of the van, with the driver and the driver's door obstructing his path to his patrol vehicle.
 - n. Constable Wood asked the driver if he had been drinking, which the driver denied. Constable Wood noticed a smell of alcohol, found the driver's speech was slurred, and that he appeared to have difficulty focusing.
 - o. Constable Wood advised the driver he was under arrest for impaired driving and asked the driver to put his hands behind his back. The driver did not comply; he had his right hand by his side and appeared to be rummaging around with it near his body. Constable Wood sensed something was not right and called his dispatcher to send another police vehicle for assistance. He then attempted to get control of the driver's

left hand to handcuff him. The two were physically in contact with each other at this point. Constable Wood was unsuccessful in controlling the driver's left hand and was concerned about the right hand so he stepped back from the van and driver and directed the driver to show his hands.

- p. The driver then produced a hunting knife and pointed the knife toward Constable Wood who turned to run away to get distance from the driver. Constable Wood was not able to run to his patrol vehicle as the driver was in the path so he ran away from both vehicles. Constable Wood looked back and saw the driver following him with the knife in his hand. Constable Wood then lost his footing and fell onto the roadway within a few meters of the van.
 - q. Constable Wood recalls being on his back as the driver was over top of him thrusting at him with the knife. Constable Wood had his feet at the chest level of the driver, kicking at the chest and trying to kick the knife out of the driver's right hand. He kicked the driver a number of times and managed to get some separation but the driver did not release the knife. The separation permitted Constable Wood to unholster his handgun. After he unholstered his handgun the driver came back over him thrusting the knife towards him. He shot the driver four times. The driver fell from above him over to the left of him on the ground.
 - r. After the driver fell to the ground Constable Wood got up, advised the dispatcher that shots had been fired and asked that Emergency Medical Services (EMS) be called. He then disarmed the driver and place him in handcuffs. When he was satisfied the driver was no longer a threat, he holstered his handgun and started chest compressions. He checked for a pulse but could not find one.
 - s. Constable Wood recalled two males attending the scene after the shooting and before support vehicles arrived. He explained to them what had happened.
 - t. Constable Wood explained that he did not use his other available weapons, OC spray or a baton, as in his judgement neither would have stopped the threat of him being stabbed by the driver in the circumstances. He explained that given the close proximity of the driver, had he used the OC spray it would have incapacitated both him and the driver.
 - u. Constable Wood thought he was going to die. He did not believe the lack of his body armour made any difference to his risk as the knife was in the vicinity of his head, neck and areas of his upper body that would not have been protected by the body armour. He indicated he would have responded in the same fashion even if he had been wearing body armour.
 - v. Constable Wood receives firearms training five or six times a year. He is trained to shoot at the torso or head area when it is necessary to discharge a police handgun. He was instructed it was higher risk to shoot at legs or arms as the target is smaller and the prospect of missing is higher. His objective was to eliminate the threat the driver stabbing him with the hunting knife. He shot four times as the driver was still coming towards him thrusting the knife each time he shot. When the driver fell to the ground, he quit shooting as the threat of being stabbed had subsided.
20. The EPS dispatch records and reports from other officers indicate the following:
- a. Constable Wood advised dispatch he arrived at the scene at 1344h.
 - b. Constable Wood called for a second vehicle for support at 1345h.
 - c. 24 seconds later Constable Wood broadcast "shots fired".

- d. The broadcast “shots fired” is an emergency call which triggers other police units to immediately respond.
21. Several police units responded to the emergency call. Their statements were provided in the materials tendered in the inquiry. The first four officers responding to the shooting arrived at 1351h. They each observed Constable Woods performing chest compressions. One of the officers took over the chest compressions from Constable Woods. Chest compressions were done continuously until EMS arrived on the location at 1358h. Mr. Savin was pronounced dead at the scene by EMS at that time. While the records of EMS indicate an arrival time of 1358h the Autopsy Report Form completed by the Medical Examiner indicates a time of death of 1355h.
22. Upon the EPS police units arriving at the scene, a command centre was set up to fully investigate the incident. As part of the investigation, police did a neighbourhood canvas. No witnesses to the shooting or security camera footage were located. Three residents from the immediate area gave statements to police and gave evidence in this hearing.
- a. Witness C.T. – Mr. C.T. lived in the immediate area. He heard shots and looked out his window but he did not go outside. When he initially looked out his window he saw the police officer and another person lying in the street. Then he saw the police officer walk around the person. He noted the police officer lifted the person’s arm and picked up a knife he estimated to be 8 to 10 inches long and toss it towards the front of the house and then place handcuffs on the person. Mr. C.T. testified the officer did perform chest compressions for about a minute and felt the person’s neck.
- b. Witness A.J. – Mr. A.J. lived in the immediate area of the shooting. He testified that he heard mild shouting and what he believed to be gunshots. He went outside with his brother to speak to the officer. By the time he and his brother (C.J.) arrived the person was already in handcuffs. He described the officer as very shocked with snow on his back. Mr. A.J. testified the officer performed chest compressions but stopped. He estimated there was a gap of 5 to 10 minutes from the time the officer stopped chest compressions and other officers arrived. Mr. A.J. saw a knife within two feet of the body.
- c. Witness C.J. – Mr. C.J. is the brother of Mr. A.J. Mr. C.J. heard his brother scream. He did not hear gun shots. He went outside with his brother and saw the officer all covered in snow. In his written statement, given on the day of the incident, Mr. C.J. stated the officer had snow on his face and in his hair and his uniform was messed up and wrinkled.

Additional evidence:

23. Independent investigators from the ASIRT took over the investigation at 1438h on March 9, 2017. As part of their investigation, the area of the shooting was carefully examined and photographed. Sketches were prepared. This material was all before the inquiry. ASIRT Primary Investigator Peter Draganiuk gave evidence in this hearing including the following matters:
- a. Four empty cartridge casings were found at the scene.
- b. A Buck hunting knife with a blade approximately 15 cm long was found close to the body of Mr. Savin. A matching sheath for the knife was found on the belt of Mr. Savin.
- c. Based on his review, he was satisfied the location of the empty cartridge casings at the scene was consistent with the pattern of movement described by Constable Wood

- during the incident. (Pictures were tendered to demonstrate where the empty cartridge casings were found.)
- d. Based on his review, he was satisfied the pattern of the gunshot wounds of Mr. Savin was consistent with the movement described by Constable Wood during the incident. (The Report of the Medical Examiner describing the pattern of the gunshot wounds was also tendered as evidence in this inquiry.)
 - e. ASIRT was aware of the concern of the Russian Consulate and the request to fully investigate the possibility of racism playing a role in the event.
24. The ASIRT report tendered as an exhibit in the inquiry details the steps taken in the investigation to address the concern regarding potential role of racism in events. Mr. Savin held dual citizenship as a Russian and Canadian. The Consulate General of The Russian Federation made formal inquiries on behalf of the family of Mr. Savin. In March 2017 members of ASIRT met directly with representatives from the Russian Consulate, explained the circumstances of Mr. Savin's death as were understood at the time and explained the steps and timeframe for the full investigation. During that meeting the Consulate General asked ASIRT to fully investigate the possibility Russian racism was a factor in the death of Mr. Savin, specifically requesting ASIRT check social media feeds used by the officer, whether the officer had ever been investigated for anti-Russian bias or racism, whether the officer had a history of dealing with Mr. Savin and whether there was evidence the officer was advised the driver was Russian prior to the shooting.
 25. The Council of Russian-Canadian Cooperation and The Russian Congress of Canada also made inquiries and submissions. ASIRT agreed to keep the Russian community updated on the progress of the investigation using the Russian Consulate as the point of contact.
 26. In follow-up to the concerns expressed by the Russian Consul and others, investigators from ASIRT conducted a comprehensive background check of Constable Wood's personal and professional life including the specific requests made by the Consulate General. No evidence was found of Russian racism on the part of Constable Wood nor any indication of prior contact by Constable Wood with Mr. Savin or Ms. T. ASIRT concluded Russian racism played no role in the incident.
 27. Later in the day on March 9, 2017, members of ASIRT interviewed the two motorists who called 911. One motorist described the driver as possibly "Russian". The second motorist described the driver to look "very European, like Russian or Ukrainian". There was no evidence the reference to the driver possibly being Russian was provided to Constable Wood prior to the shooting.
 28. The Executive Director of ASIRT communicated the results and recommendation of the investigation to the Consulate General. None of these groups sought interested party status in the inquiry.
 29. An examination of Mr. Savin's body was performed at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Edmonton on March 10, 2017. The examination revealed Mr. Savin had gunshot wounds caused by four bullets, in the upper left back region, left hip region, left shoulder, right forearm and to the head. All wound paths, except the right forearm, were upwards. While there were more wounds than bullets, the Medical Examiner concluded this was possible as some of the wounds were related to one another. Blood samples were taken which confirmed high levels of ethanol in the blood of Mr. Savin. The Medical Examiner concluded Mr. Savin died as a result of the gunshot wound of the head.

30. This inquiry heard evidence from Constable Adams, who at the time was assigned to train EPS police officers in various areas including the exercise of judgement related to the appropriate use of force in any given situation. He explained an officer is trained to be assessing the situation on a continuous basis, including strategies for managing risk.
31. Constable Adams explained officers are trained to discharge their handgun shooting four rounds in four seconds. Officers are trained that when deciding to discharge their handgun as required force in the circumstances, they are to initially target centre mass of an individual, on the basis it is an area more likely to be hit and slow the forward progress of the individual. Officers are trained to shoot two rounds to body and a round to the head based on the analysis that if the individual who is a threat is continuing after being struck centre mass, the only thing that will stop the individual is a shot to the head.
32. In addition, the following policies were tendered as exhibits and reviewed by this inquiry:
 - a. Policies in place March 2017:
 - i. Reasonable Officer Response Procedure – OP7-1PR
 - ii. Reasonable Officer Response Reporting Procedure – OP7-2PR
 - iii. Objective Reasonable Test
 - iv. Use of Force Policy – OP7PO
 - b. Policies in place September 2019:
 - i. Reasonable Officer Response Procedure – OP7-1PR
 - ii. ROR Category (Reasonable Officer Response)
 - iii. Reasonable Officer Response Reporting Procedure – OP7-2PR
 - iv. Objective Reasonable Test
 - v. Use of Force Policy
 - vi. Detainee Wellbeing Procedure
 - vii. Use of Force Equipment Procedure
33. A comparison of the policies related to use of force in March 2017 and September 2019 show no changes relevant to the circumstances of this inquiry. The ROR Category policy is an expansion of the ROR options associated with Category I and Category II Use of Force Events described in the Reasonable Officer Response Reporting Procedure. This event involved a “Serious Incident” as defined in the Reasonable Officer Response Procedure definitions; the ROR Category document is not relevant in the circumstances.
34. The EPS Use of Force Policy is developed in compliance with the Provincial Use of Force Guidelines published by Alberta Justice and the Solicitor General. The policy requires members to only use the amount of force that is necessary “to achieve the officer’s lawful purpose, given the facts and circumstances perceived by the officer at that time”.
35. The EPS Reasonable Officer Response Procedure directs an officer who uses force which results in injuries to request the attendance of EMS once a situation is under control.
36. This inquiry was also provided with the Detainee Wellbeing Procedure. The Detainee Wellbeing Procedure becomes relevant once an individual is detained, in this case by being placed in handcuffs. This Procedure requires the officer to call EMS and address preservation of life steps as appropriate until EMS arrives

37. For the purposes of considering any recommendations this inquiry finds the events unfolded as follows:
- a. At 1331h Constable Wood responded to a call for service to investigate a suspected impaired driver. His destination was provided by the dispatcher, relying on the civilian 911 complainant who followed the suspect vehicle into a residential area and provided directions to the dispatcher. The civilian departed when he saw Constable Wood arrive on the scene.
 - b. Constable Wood arrived on the scene at 1344h and advised the dispatcher. He identified the vehicle by its location and the description provided by the dispatcher. He parked his patrol vehicle nose to nose with the suspect vehicle.
 - c. In the two to three minutes from 1344h to 1346h, Constable Wood approached the vehicle and attempted to conduct an impaired driving investigation. When Mr. Savin would not follow his directions, he called for a support vehicle and within 24 seconds of doing so, he discharged his firearm in response to the actions of Mr. Savin in coming towards him with a knife. One of the four shots discharged by Constable Wood struck Mr. Savin in the head, causing his death.
 - d. The detailed description of events provided by Constable Wood and summarized in paragraph 19 is consistent with all collateral evidence and is accepted by this inquiry as reliable.

Recommendations for the prevention of similar deaths:

38. The purpose of this inquiry is to determine whether the evidence raises any concerns that may be the subject of recommendations to prevent similar deaths. As noted in paragraph 15, the following areas of potential concern were considered in this inquiry, either related to concerns raised by Ms. T, the Consulate General of The Russian Federation, the Council of Russian-Canadian Cooperation, the Russian Congress of Canada or otherwise arising directly from the evidence before this inquiry.

Alternatives to the use of lethal force

39. Ms. T expressed concern that Constable Wood resorting to shooting Mr. Savin over other options. Ms. T raised these concerns in her questions of the witnesses and in her submissions:
- a. Constable Wood should have run to his police vehicle to seek shelter.
 - b. Constable Wood was feeling more at risk due to his lack of body armour.
 - c. Constable Wood should have used a less lethal weapon to deal with the threat.
 - d. Constable Wood should have tried to shoot the knife out of Mr. Savin's hand or shoot at a limb rather than shoot him in the head and body.
 - e. Why did Constable Wood not fire a warning shot?
40. This inquiry finds Constable Wood used a progression of strategies to manage the threat posed by Mr. Savin throughout the encounter. First, he directed Mr. Savin to remain in his vehicle. This direction was not followed. Second, he arrested Mr. Savin and attempted to place him in handcuffs. Mr. Savin did not cooperate with being handcuffed. Third,

Constable Wood called for a support vehicle. Fourth, Constable Wood moved away from Mr. Savin and directed him to show his hands. Mr. Savin did not respond. Fifth, when Mr. Savin produced a knife and stabbed towards him, Constable Wood attempted to create distance to reduce the risk of being stabbed. Sixth, after falling to the ground and facing Mr. Savin over top of him trying to stab him with a knife, Constable Wood attempted to kick the knife from Mr. Savin's hand. It was only after all those strategies were unsuccessful that Constable Wood unholstered his weapon and discharged it.

41. These events occurred in less than three minutes. This inquiry carefully considered the alternative suggestions made by Ms. T and notes the following:
 - a. Given Mr. Savin was between Constable Wood and his police vehicle, it was not reasonable for the officer to retreat to his vehicle in response to the threat posed.
 - b. The potential injury Mr. Savin could have done to Constable Wood would not have been prevented by body armour as the officer's head, neck and parts of his upper body would have been vulnerable even with body armour.
 - c. In the circumstances the decision to use a handgun in response to the behavior of Mr. Savin was objectively the most reasonable and appropriate decision Constable Wood could have made.
 - d. The shots fired by Constable Wood, once he concluded his firearm was necessary, complied with his training on the use of a firearm. Policy and training direct an officer not to target the parts of the body suggested by Ms. T.
 - e. An EPS officer is trained to use other warning strategies rather than firing a warning shot. The Use of Force Policy requires an officer to act on reasonable grounds in determining the level of force required to respond to any given situation. This includes providing a verbal warning and use to tactical options including disengagement principles, such as moving away from a person. The Reasonable Officer Response Procedure offers the following direction regarding warning shots:

“In the vast majority of cases the firing of a warning shot(s) is not an appropriate response to a threat with the public risk of such an action outweighing any possible benefit.”
42. The EPS Use of Force Policy is developed in compliance with the Provincial Use of Force Guidelines published by Alberta Justice and the Solicitor General. The policy requires members to only use the amount of force that is necessary “to achieve the officer's lawful purpose, given the facts and circumstances perceived by the officer at that time”.
43. This inquiry is satisfied the existing Use of Force Policy and related Procedures, together with the regular fire arm training provided to EPS officers are designed to hone judgement in this area given the myriad of circumstances which may arise.
44. This inquiry has no recommendations for changes to the Use of Force Policy and related procedures arising from the circumstances of the death of Mr. Savin.

Was Russian racism a factor in Mr. Savin's death?

45. This inquiry is satisfied ASIRT acted appropriately and thoroughly in responding to the concerns expressed on behalf of the representatives of a foreign citizen in the conduct of

this investigation and accepts the conclusion that ethnic bias did not play a role in the outcome.

46. There is no evidence Constable Wood was aware of the Mr. Savin's status as a Russian citizen prior to the shooting.
47. This inquiry has no recommendations in this area as there is no evidence of any link between the citizenship of Mr. Savin and the decisions made by Constable Wood.

Medical assistance provided to Mr. Savin after shooting

48. Constable Wood gave evidence he immediately commenced chest compressions after removing the knife from Mr. Savin, placing him in handcuffs and calling for EMS. The civilian witnesses confirmed they observed Constable Wood providing chest compressions during their observations.
49. This inquiry is satisfied the existing policy related to attending the medical needs of an individual after being shot by an officer is appropriate and has no recommendations for change.

Conclusion

50. Having carefully considered all of the testimony and exhibits, and the submissions of all interested parties, this inquiry concludes there are no recommendations for changes of policy arising out of these circumstances that would prevent similar deaths in the future.

DATED _____ March 8, 2021 _____,

at _____ Edmonton _____, Alberta.

Original Signed

Janet L. Dixon
A Judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta