

Report to / Rapport au:

**OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE BOARD
LA COMMISSION DE SERVICE DE POLICE D'OTTAWA**

5 December 2025 / 5 décembre 2025

Submitted by / Soumis par:

Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service / Chef de police, Service de police d'Ottawa

Contact Person / Personne ressource:

**A/Superintendent Mazen Dikah, Executive Officer to the Chief of Police
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SUBJECT: REPORT ON THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT 25-OFI-170

**OBJET: RAPPORT SUR L'UNITÉ DES ENQUÊTES SPÉCIALES – ENQUÊTE
25-OFI-170**

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de service police d'Ottawa prenne connaissance du présent rapport à titre d'information

BACKGROUND

This document outlines a police interaction that resulted in the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) invoking their mandate. The background of the incident, along with SIU findings and recommendations are provided. As required by legislation, the Professional Standards Unit (PSU) subsequently completed an investigation into the policing services delivered, the procedural practices and the conduct of the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) in relation to this incident.

DISCUSSION

Incident Summary – April 29, 2025

On Tuesday, April 29th, 2025, at approximately 1:30pm, the complainant was walking on the sidewalk around 25 Sparks Street carrying a sign with a political message “Poilievre should have won the election”. He approached victim #1 and victim #2 and threatened

them both. The victims saw a gun in the complainant's waistband. They approached a member of the military police who in turn called 911, for Ottawa Police Service to attend. The complainant left the area on foot and walking eastbound toward Rideau Street.

The Subject Officials and Witness Official #2 responded to the entrance of Rideau Mall, at 99 Rideau Street, as mall security informed them the complainant was inside the mall. The Subject Officials located the complainant in front of the mall entrance and attempted to arrest him. The complainant produced a firearm in his hand during the struggle with the officers. Both Subject Officials pointed and discharged their firearms. The complainant was struck by several bullets fired at him by the officers. He was transported via ambulance to the Ottawa Civic Hospital.

The complainant was charged with several criminal offences, including pointing a firearm, weapon possession, carrying a concealed weapon, uttering threats, and assault peace officer.

SIU was notified of the incident promptly after the incident.

INVESTIGATIONS

SIU Investigation:

On August 22nd 2025, the OPS received a letter from the Director of the SIU concerning the outcome of their investigation. In his letter, Director Martino stated that the file had been closed and no further action being contemplated. He was satisfied that there were no grounds in the evidence to proceed with criminal charges against the Subject Officials who was involved in this incident. The SIU investigative report was also disclosed to the Chief.

The SIU collected evidence, including interviews with police witnesses, video footage and radio communications. In his report the SIU Director stated: The Subject Officials and Witness Officer #2, were engaged in the execution of their duties through the course of events culminating in gunfire. With reason to believe that the Complainant was walking around the Parliament Hill area of Ottawa with a clearly visible firearm, the officers were within their rights in moving to detain him for being in possession of a dangerous weapon contrary to section 88(1) of the Criminal Code. I am satisfied that the Subject Officials fired their weapons believing it was necessary to protect themselves and others from a reasonably apprehended attack at the hands of the Complainant. I am also satisfied that the Subject Officials' gunfire, constituted reasonable force. Given their proximity to the Complainant at the time not more than several meters away, each officer would have been rightfully concerned that their lives and the lives of others in the vicinity were in immediate danger. In the circumstances, a

resort to gunfire made sense at it was the only force available to the officers with the stopping power required of the moment.

For the foregoing reasons, there is no basis or proceeding with criminal charges in this case.

Professional Standards Unit Investigation:

Pursuant to Section 8 of Ontario Regulation 90/24, Section 81 of the Community Safety and Police Act (CSPA), PSU initiated an investigation into this incident to review the policing services, the procedural practices of the OPS, and to determine if the conduct of the involved police members was appropriate.

During the PSU investigations, it was noted that the involved officers and the Subject Officials followed the policies, procedures, and their training when engaging with the Complainant.

PSU's investigation confirmed what the SIU concluded, in that the officers were in the lawful execution of their duty and the Subject Officials had reasonable ground to arrest the complainant on the strength of the information received from the victims, the military police and the security guard. The Subject Officials used appropriate force when faced with an individual holding a firearm. Once the threat was eliminated, the officers immediately rendered first aid to the complainant who was then transported to the hospital.

Policing Services Findings – No issues identified.

Procedural Practices Findings – No issues identified.

Conduct Findings – No issues identified.

CONCLUSION

PSU has completed its Section 81 investigation into this incident and no further action is required.