

Report to / Rapport au:

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

27 April 2026 / 27 avril 2026

Submitted by / Soumis par:

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

Contact Person / Personne ressource:

**Superintendent Mazen Dikah, Executive Officer to the Chief of Police
DikahM@ottawapolice.ca**

SUBJECT: REPORT ON THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT 25-OCI-384

**OBJET: RAPPORT SUR L'UNITÉ DES ENQUÊTES SPÉCIALES – ENQUÊTE
25-OCI-384**

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 – September 22, 2025

On Monday September 22, 2025, at approximately 2046hrs, the Subject Official and Witness Official responded to a partner dispute. The Officials initially spoke with the complainant, who was intoxicated at the time, and her partner. Both parties reported

that the incident was a verbal dispute with no physical violence. The Officials advised the individuals to separate and retire for the night.

At 23:39 hours, the same Officials were dispatched back to the residence for a second partner dispute. On this occasion, the partner reported that he had been assaulted by the complainant, who was located on the second floor of the home. The Officials attended upstairs and placed the intoxicated complainant under arrest.

While maintaining control of the complainant, the Officials began escorting her down the staircase. Due to the narrowness of the stairwell, the Subject Official positioned himself in front of the complainant. During the descent, the complainant lost her footing and fell backward onto her back and buttocks. She immediately reported pain in her elbow.

Paramedics were requested, and the complainant was transported to hospital, where she was diagnosed with a broken arm.

SIU was notified of the incident promptly after the incident.

The complainant was charged with one count of assault.

INVESTIGATIONS

SIU Investigation:

On January 21, 2026, 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 Official who was involved in this incident. The SIU investigative report was also disclosed to the Chief.

The SIU collected evidence, including notes, reports, interviews with police witnesses and radio communications. In his report the SIU Director stated: *The Subject Official and Witness Officials were lawfully placed inside the home having been dispatched to investigate a reported assault. Once inside, with information from CW #2 and another witness that the Complainant had attacked CW #2, the officers were within their rights in taking the Complainant into custody for assault. I am also satisfied that the officers comported themselves with due care and attention*

for the Complainant's safety and wellbeing while she was in their custody. One of the officers – the SO – was positioned a step or two in front of the Complainant holding onto her left arm. The WO was behind the Complainant. The stairway was too narrow to allow the officers on either side of the Complainant. There is no evidence that the

officers rushed the Complainant or otherwise caused her fall; she simply lost her footing in her intoxicated state. Shortly after, aware of the possibility of injury when the Complainant complained of pain, the officers called for an ambulance and repositioned her handcuffs to the front to make her more comfortable. On this record, I am unable to reasonably conclude that the officers did not take sufficient precautions while the Complainant was in their custody and care.

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 Official had reasonable ground to arrest the complainant on the strength of the information received from the victim. The Subject Official used care for the complainant while in his custody. 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.