Report to / Rapport au:

OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD LA COMMISSION DE SERVICES POLICIERS D'OTTAWA

25 February 2019 / 25 février 2019

Submitted by / Soumis par:
Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service / Chef de police, Service de police d'Ottawa

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SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO INQUIRY #I-19-01: OTTAWA POLICE CHARGE

SHEET FORM

OBJET: RÉPONSE À L'ENQUÊTE NO 1-19-01:

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

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

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de services policiers d'Ottawa prenne connaissance du présent rapport à titre d'information.

BACKGROUND

At the Ottawa Police Services Board meeting on 28 January 2019, Board Member Valiquet submitted the following inquiry:

A form is currently being used by the Ottawa Police Service at the courthouse that appears to contain a discriminatory designation.

Member Valiquet asked the OPS to look into the form and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

This report responds to the inquiry.

DISCUSSION

The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) has reviewed this issue in detail in conjunction with other Ontario police services who utilize the same software applications utilized by the OPS.

While the OPS Records Management System uses multiple ethnicity descriptor codes, the options that appear on the Charge Sheet are limited to white/non-white in order to comply with RCMP CPIC requirements.

Unfortunately, the race/ethnicity categories accepted in the data translation onto Charge Sheets do not replicate the options in our RMS system and, therefore, the vendor worked on a process to remove the category in its entirety from the Charge Sheet.

This change was completed in mid-February and the category no longer appears on charge sheets going forward.