Report to / Rapport au:

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

27 July 2020 / 27 juillet 2020

Submitted by / Soumis par:

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

Contact Person / Personne ressource:

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SUBJECT: REPORT ON SIU INVESTIGATION

OBJET: RAPPORT SUR L'ENQUÊTE DE L'UES

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

The attached document outlines a police interaction that resulted in the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) invoking their mandate. The background of the incident, SIU findings and recommendations are provided. The Professional Standards Section completed an investigation into the policy, services and conduct of the involved members of the Ottawa police Service (OPS).

DISCUSSION

On September 16, 2019, at approximately 12:30pm, patrol officers arrested a male in the Byward Market area of downtown Ottawa for a drug offence. The officers noted an injury to the male's face and when questioned, the male advised he had been in a fight. At that time, a warrant from Smiths Falls for the male's arrest was discovered and the male was transported to cells to await pickup by Smiths Falls officers.

Once in the custody of Smiths Falls police, the male requested medical attention for the injury to his face and claimed the injury had been caused by the arresting Ottawa Police officers. When examined by a Doctor, it was determined that he had suffered a fractured orbital bone.

As a result, the Smiths Falls Police notified the SIU which invoked its mandate.

INVESTIGATION

Special Investigations Unit Investigation

On May 4, 2020 the Ottawa Police Service received a letter from the Director of the Special Investigations Unit concerning the outcome of its investigation. In his letter, Mr. Martino stated the file has been closed and no further action is contemplated. He was satisfied that there were no grounds in the evidence to proceed with criminal charges against the Subject Officer.

The SIU determined through review of video evidence that the male's allegation of being punched by the subject officer was false.

Professional Standards Investigation

Pursuant to Section 11(1) of Ontario Regulation 267/10 of the Police Services Act, the Professional Standards Section initiated an investigation into this incident to determine if the policies of, or services provided by the OPS were adhered to at the time of this incident, and to determine if the conduct of the involved police officers was appropriate.

After a careful review of the evidence in this case, it has been determined that there is no evidence of any misconduct on the part of the involved officers.

Conduct Findings – No conduct issues identified.

Service Findings – No service issues identified

Policy Findings - No policy issues identified

CONCLUSION

The Professional Standard's Section has completed its Section 11 investigation into this incident and no further action is required.