



REFERRAL TO CROWN COUNSEL

INVESTIGATION FILE: IIO 2016-049

On March 31, 2017, the IIO's Chief Civilian Director (CCD) completed a review of this file and submitted a report to Crown Counsel for consideration of charges. This relates to serious injuries suffered by a male affected person in an incident involving a police service dog and a member of the Vancouver Police Department on March 16, 2016.

Pursuant to the *Police Act*, the CCD must refer a file to Crown Counsel for consideration of charges if the CCD identifies that an officer **may** have committed an offence under any enactment. The IIO's referral standard is much lower than any other law enforcement agency in B.C.

In approving charges, Crown Counsel must be satisfied not only that an offence may have been committed, but that the commission of an offence can be proven in court beyond a reasonable doubt.

Crown Counsel's policy for assessment relies on a two part test:

- There must be a substantial likelihood of conviction based on the evidence gathered by the investigating agency.
- A prosecution must be required in the public interest.

Once Crown Counsel has made a decision on this file, the IIO will provide an update on the IIO website at www.iiobc.ca/cases.