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BC Prosecution Service approves charges against Police Officer in Fatal shooting

Victoria - The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that charges of aggravated assault and assault with a weapon have been approved against a member of the Surrey RCMP involved in the fatal shooting of Hudson Brooks on July 18, 2015. The charges arose out of an on duty incident that occurred at the District 5 RCMP detachment on 152 Street in Surrey.

A two count indictment charging Cst Elizabeth Cucheran with these offences was sworn this morning in Surrey Provincial Court under court file number 225518-1. Cst Cucheran's first appearance on these charges will be in Surrey Provincial Court on January 9, 2018.

The case was investigated by the Independent Investigation Office (IIO) which subsequently submitted a Report to Crown Counsel (RCC). The charges were approved following a complete review of the available evidence by senior Crown Counsel. The investigation and charge assessment process were protracted due, in part, to the complexities of the evidentiary issues in the case and the requirement for further investigation and analysis.

The Charge Assessment Guidelines that are applied by the BCPS in reviewing all RCCs are established in Branch policy and are available at:

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/charge-assessment-guidelines>

As the matter is now before the court the BC Prosecution Service is unable to comment further on the charges or the charge assessment process.

Media Contact: Dan McLaughlin
Communications Counsel
Daniel.McLaughlin@gov.bc.ca
250.387.5169

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