



Referral to Crown Counsel

Disposition

IIO Investigation: 2016-051

The IIO investigation was referred to Crown Counsel with the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) for consideration of charges on June 18, 2018. On June 8, 2020, BCPS announced that charges were being approved against the officers.

Cst. Joshua Grafton was charged with assault, assault with a weapon, and obstruction of justice, contrary to sections 266, 267(a), and 139(2) of the *Criminal Code of Canada*, respectively. On August 22, 2023, Cst. Grafton was found not guilty on all three counts.

A separate Information charged Cst. Wayne Connell and Cst. Kyle Sharpe with assault causing bodily harm, contrary to section 267(b) of the *Criminal Code of Canada*. These charges were stayed on October 15, 2021.

Incident Summary

In the morning on February 18, 2016, two men were arrested by members of the RCMP in Prince George following a traffic stop of an allegedly stolen truck in the 2300-block of Norwood Street. In March 2016, the Director of Police Services, at the request of the RCMP and pursuant to their authority under section 44 of the *Police Act*, directed an IIO investigation into the incident as, although the men were injured, their injuries did not meet the threshold of [serious harm](#) as defined by the *Police Act*.