Media Statement

No charges Approved following IIO Investigation into Motor Vehicle Fatality

Victoria - The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that no charges have been approved against a Westshore RCMP officer who attempted to stop a motor vehicle for a *Motor Vehicle Act* infraction in the early morning hours of April 5, 2016 in Langford BC. Within seconds of the officer's attempt to stop the pickup truck driven by Kenneth Jacob Fenton, the pickup truck collided with a marked RCMP police vehicle driven by Cst. Sarah Beckett at the intersection of Peatt Road and Goldstream Avenue in Langford, BC. Cst. Beckett died of injuries sustained in the collision.

The incident was investigated by the Independent Investigations Office (IIO) which focused on the actions of the officer who attempted to stop the Fenton vehicle immediately before the collision with Cst. Beckett's vehicle. The IIO subsequently submitted a Report to Crown Counsel to the Prosecution Service.

Following an investigation, where the Chief Civilian Director of the IIO determines that an officer may have committed an offence, the IIO submits a report to the BCPS. The Chief Civilian Director does not make a recommendation on whether charges should be approved.

In this case the BCPS has concluded that the available evidence does not meet the charge assessment standard for approval of any charges against the police officer in connection with the incident.

A Clear Statement explaining the reasons for not approving charges will be made public following the conclusion of related proceedings involving Mr. Fenton. As the related charges are still before the court the BCPS will not be releasing any further information at this time.

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

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BC Prosecution Service - Headquarters
Ministry of Justice

PO Box 9276 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9J7
gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice
@bcprosecution
P: 250.387.3840   F: 250.387.0090