



Referral to Crown Counsel

Disposition

IIO Investigation: 2020-110

On April 9, 2021, the IIO [filed a report to Crown Counsel](#) with the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) for consideration of charges regarding an investigation into the May 2020 injury of a man on a motorbike in Williams Lake.

On July 27, 2023, the [BCPS approved charges](#) of assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, and dangerous driving causing bodily harm against Cst. Madeline Hjelden in relation to the incident.

On February 6, 2025, Cst. Hjelden was found not guilty on all four counts.

Incident Summary

At about 7:00 p.m. on May 31, 2020, police in Williams Lake responded to reports of a man who was believed to be intoxicated, in significant emotional distress, and had recently left a home riding a motorbike.

Officers located the man and attempted to speak to him, but he rode away on the motorbike. Police followed and Cst. Hjelden used a police vehicle to bring the motorbike to a stop. The man sustained serious injuries in the collision and was taken to a hospital for treatment.