



**IN THE MATTER OF THE INJURY OF A MAN
WHILE BEING APPREHENDED BY MEMBERS OF THE RCMP
IN SURREY, BRITISH COLUMBIA
ON JULY 12, 2025**

**DECISION OF THE CHIEF CIVILIAN DIRECTOR
OF THE INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS OFFICE**

Chief Civilian Director:

Jessica Berglund

IIO File Number:

2025-175

Date of Release:

January 14, 2026

INTRODUCTION

On the morning of July 12, 2025, RCMP Surrey Provincial Operations Support Unit members were advised of a series of acts by the Affected Person (“AP”) that indicated he might be suffering from a mental health crisis, and was also arrestable for breaches of court-ordered conditions. The AP fled from officers and was taken to the ground by the Subject Officer (“SO”). It was then discovered that he had suffered a broken left arm. The Independent Investigations Office (“IIO”) was notified and commenced an investigation.

The narrative that follows is based on evidence collected and analyzed during the investigation, including the following:

- statements of the AP, four paramedics and five witness police officers;
- police Computer-Aided Dispatch (“CAD”) and Police Records Information Management Environment (“PRIME”) records;
- audio recordings of 911 calls and police radio transmissions;
- video recording from a traffic camera; and
- medical evidence.

The IIO does not require an officer whose actions are the subject of an investigation to provide evidence. In this case, the SO has not given any account.

NARRATIVE

Interviewed by IIO investigators, the Affected Person (“AP”) said that on the night before the July 12, 2025, incident, he had consumed “a little bit of alcohol and cocaine” but said he was “pretty sober” the next morning. He also said he “might not have” taken his prescribed medications. He said he woke up feeling anxious, with voices in his head calling for help, so he called 911 from the home of a family member.

The AP then drove to the home of other family members in breach of a court-ordered “no go” condition. He said he went inside to ask if they were okay, but then got scared and left. He said he drove to a gas station and called 911 again from there. Believing the call-taker was “against” him, he said, he then drove to an RCMP detachment. In the parking lot, he said he spoke with three police officers (IIO investigators identified the three officers as Witness Officer 1 (“WO1”), Witness Officer 2 (“WO2”) and Witness Officer 3 (“WO3”)). The AP said the officers would not let him tell his “full story” and kept asking him questions:

They already had an impression that I was a criminal. They took me on as a criminal, not somebody asking for help.

The AP said he had not been told he was under arrest, but was scared of the officers. The AP said that, thinking the officers were going to hurt him, he ran away, and was chased by officers on foot and in police vehicles. The AP said the Subject Officer ("SO") then turned his vehicle in front of the AP, exited the vehicle and "body-checked" the AP to the ground:

[He] body checked me like really hard. He's a bigger guy. I went flying and hit like the cement corner of the [wall] ... I hit the corner and my arm broke and I fell and I looked at my hand and he came and grabbed my head...boom, boom, boom, and I have a big cut like right by my left eye here.

The AP suffered fractures of his left arm requiring the use of steel plates to repair.

The AP's original 911 call was made at 7:17 a.m. When the call was discontinued, the operator called back to the originating number and spoke with a family member. The family member alleged that the AP had driven to another home, where he had been ordered not to attend, and had "kicked in" the front door and confronted the occupants. The AP was reported as having departed at high speed in his pickup truck.

Shortly after this, a civilian called 911 to report multiple traffic violations by the AP in the pickup truck, including driving at very high speeds on the wrong side of the road.

At about 7:40 a.m., WO1 radioed that he was with the AP at the RCMP detachment. A few minutes later, at 7:47 a.m., WO1 was advised by a radio call from the SO that the AP was arrestable for failing to reside where directed under court-ordered conditions. WO1 responded that he would wait for other members to arrive before attempting to arrest the AP, who he said was "pretty out of it," and then radioed that the AP was running away eastbound on 104 Avenue. Within a minute, the SO was on the radio saying "He's in cuffs." A minute after that, the SO called for an ambulance as the AP "probably" had a broken arm.

The RCMP detachment is at the corner of 104 Avenue and 148 Street. A video recording from the traffic camera at the intersection shows the AP running across 148 Street from the direction of the detachment parking lot. He continues running eastbound on the south sidewalk of 104 Avenue, pursued on foot by WO1, WO2 and WO3. Two marked police vehicles can then be seen turning eastbound on 104 Avenue, their emergency lights flashing (investigators determined the first was driven by Witness Officer 4 ("WO4") and the second by the SO).

The AP was intercepted and taken to the ground by the SO, on the south side of 104 Avenue, west of 149 Street, in front of a row of shops. This part of the incident was not captured on video.

WO1 told the IIO that as he ran after the AP, he saw the SO's police vehicle pass and then make a sharp right turn ahead of the AP. WO1 said the SO crossed his arms and "shoved" the AP on his left side as he was sprinting past. WO1 drew his Conducted Energy Weapon ("CEW" or "Taser"), but did not deploy it against the AP. Once the AP was handcuffed, WO1 said, he noticed that the AP's lower left arm appeared to be broken.

WO2 told investigators that the AP was a very fast runner. As she pursued him, she said, she saw the SO exit his vehicle and "escort" the AP to the ground. She said she was not able to describe exactly how that was accomplished, but said she thought the SO pushed the AP from behind on his left side.

WO3 described the SO as having "side-checked" the AP, causing him to fall. He said the contact between the SO and the AP was shoulder to shoulder.

WO4 had driven past the fleeing AP when he saw the SO "tackle" the AP to the ground. He said the AP appeared to fall to his left side, but said he did not have a clear view as he was looking back through the rear side window of his police vehicle.

In his IIO statement, the AP mentioned striking a wall as he fell, and the witness officers were asked if they had observed that, but all said they had not.

ANALYSIS

The Independent Investigations Office of British Columbia is mandated to investigate any incident that occurs in the province in which an Affected Person has died or suffered serious physical harm and there appears to be a connection to the actions (or sometimes inaction) of an officer or detention guard. The goal is to provide assurance to the public that when the investigation is complete, they can trust the IIO's conclusions, because the investigation was conducted by an independent, unbiased, civilian-led agency.

In most cases, those conclusions are presented in a public report such as this one, which completes the IIO's mandate by explaining to the public what happened in the incident and how the Affected Person came to suffer harm. Such reports are generally intended to enhance public confidence in the police and in the justice system as a whole through a transparent and impartial evaluation of the incident and the police role in it.

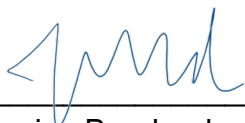
In a smaller number of cases, the evidence gathered may give the Chief Civilian Director ("CCD") reasonable grounds to believe that an officer has committed an offence in

connection with the incident. In such a case, the *Police Act* gives the CCD authority to refer the file to Crown counsel for consideration of charges.

In a case such as this one, involving the use of force by officers, the IIO investigators collect evidence with respect to potential justifications for that use of force. The CCD then analyzes this evidence using legal tests such as necessity, proportionality and reasonableness to reach conclusions as to whether the officers' actions were lawful, or whether the subject officer—or any of the other involved officers—may have committed an offence.

All the involved officers were acting in the lawful execution of their duty in pursuing and apprehending the AP. They had been given information that he had breached court conditions and had broken into a residence in doing so. It had also been reported that he had committed multiple dangerous driving offences. There were grounds for his arrest, and justification when he fled to pursue him and apprehend him, using reasonably necessary force to do so. While it is unfortunate that the AP suffered an injury in the course of being tackled to the ground by the SO, that manoeuvre was neither unnecessary or unreasonable in the circumstances. There is no evidence that any other use of force was applied, once the AP was restrained in handcuffs, and appropriate medical care was provided when it became apparent that he was injured.

Accordingly, as Chief Civilian Director of the IIO, I do not consider that there are reasonable grounds to believe that an officer may have committed an offence under any enactment and the matter will not be referred to Crown counsel for consideration of charges.



Jessica Berglund
Chief Civilian Director

January 14, 2026
Date of Release