

# SiRT

SERIOUS INCIDENT  
RESPONSE TEAM

## Summary of Investigations

SiRT File# 2023-001 January 10, 2023

SiRT File #2023-014 March 20, 2023

Cape Breton Regional Police

Nova Scotia

Erin E. Nauss  
Interim Director  
October 17, 2023

## **MANDATE OF THE SiRT**

The Serious Incident Response Team (“SiRT”) has a mandate under the Nova Scotia *Police Act* to investigate all matters that involve death, serious injury, sexual assault, and domestic violence or other matters of significant public interest that may have arisen from the actions of any police officer in Nova Scotia.

At the conclusion of every investigation, the SiRT Director must determine whether criminal charges should result from the actions of the police officer. If no charges are warranted the Director will issue a public summary of the investigation which outlines the reasons for that decision, which must include at a minimum the information set out by regulation. Public summaries are drafted with the goal of adequate information to allow the public to understand the Director’s rationale and conclusions.

In cases like these where charges were laid, and since the matters are currently before the courts, in accordance with SiRT policy, this report will not discuss the facts of the matters in detail. To do otherwise might compromise the fair trial interests of the accused.

The Serious Incident Response Team Regulations under the *Police Act* state that the Director may choose to provide a supplemental summary of the investigation at the conclusion of the prosecution.

## **INCIDENT SUMMARY**

The SiRT was contacted on January 10, 2023, by the Cape Breton Regional Police concerning an allegation made by a member of the public in relation to a breach of an undertaking that occurred on January 8, 2023, by one of its members. On March 20, 2023, SiRT was contact by a member of the public in relation to a driving complaint regarding the same officer that occurred on January 10, 2023. Both allegations involved Constable Lawrence Doucette of the Cape Breton Regional Police Service.

## **CONCLUSION**

The investigation led to the conclusion that there were sufficient grounds to lay a charge of breach of an undertaking under the *Criminal Code* and a charge of careless and imprudent Driving under the *Motor Vehicle Act*. The former SiRT Director laid charges against Lawrence Doucette on September 7, 2023.