

SiRT

SERIOUS INCIDENT
RESPONSE TEAM

Summary of Investigation
SiRT File # 2020-006
Referral from
RCMP
March 11, 2020

Felix Cacchione
Director
July 29, 2020

This matter was referred to SiRT on March 11, 2020. The referral stemmed from an unrelated investigation conducted by the Halifax Regional Police and RCMP Integrated Child Exploitation (ICE) unit in relation to the possession of child pornography that might involve a member of the RCMP, the Subject Officer (SO). SiRT's investigation began on March 11, 2020 and was concluded on July 14, 2020.

Facts:

The National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) receives reports from various Electronic Source Providers (ESP) in relation to the uploading of child pornography by ESP users. The NCMEC refers the reports it receives to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

The ICE unit became aware of several reports made by electronic source providers (ESP) to the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). These reports dealt with the uploading of child pornography by the user of a certain assigned IP address on various between June 24, 2019 and February 27, 2020.

A search warrant for the SO's residence was obtained and executed on March 11, 2020. Various electronic devices were analysed on scene for child pornography. One of those devices was seized for further forensic analysis. As a result of that analysis the SO, Constable Jeffrey Hirsch, was charged with the offences of possession and distribution of child pornography.

As this matter is now before the courts and in accordance with SiRT policy, this report will not discuss the facts of the matter in any further detail. To do so may 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.