

SiRT

SERIOUS INCIDENT
RESPONSE TEAM

Summary of Investigation

SiRT File # 2022-038

Cape Breton Regional Police

September 23, 2022

John Scott
Interim Director
October 25, 2022

On the afternoon of September 23, 2022, SiRT was contacted by the Cape Breton Regional Police (CBRP) who reported two allegations of assault on an Affected Person (AP) by a CBRP officer, the Subject Officer (SO). The incidents are alleged to have occurred in July 2022 and September 23, 2022. An investigation began that day and concluded on October 17, 2022.

Information obtained during the investigation included a statement from the AP, statements from two civilian witnesses and the involvement of various members of the Cape Breton Regional Police.

On October 25, 2022, two charges of assault were laid against Cst. Lawrence Doucette. Cst. Doucette is scheduled to appear in Sydney Provincial Court on November 10, 2022.

Relevant legal issue:

An assault is committed whenever a person intentionally applies force against another person without their consent.

Where reasonable grounds exist to believe a criminal offence has been committed, the interim director may charge the police officer. Any offence must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt before the accused can be found guilty.

Conclusion:

This investigation has led to the conclusion that there are sufficient grounds to lay two charges against Cst. Lawrence Doucette. This matter is currently before the courts therefore this report will not discuss the facts of the matter in any further detail. To do otherwise might compromise the fair trial interests of the accused.