



Summary of Investigation

SiRT File # 2013-001

Referral from

Halifax Regional Police

January 3, 2013

Ronald J. MacDonald, QC
Director
April 18, 2013

Facts

On Thursday, January 3, 2013, at 9:23 a.m., SiRT was contacted by the Halifax Regional Police (HRP) and advised of a possible domestic violence incident involving Desmond Alexander Lambert, a constable with HRP. The alleged victim was Cst. Lambert's spouse.

At approximately 8:30 a.m., Halifax Regional Police received a 911 call from Cst. Lambert's residence. The female caller was requesting that police attend her address. Upon arrival the responding police officers received information from Cst. Lambert's spouse and subsequently placed him under arrest for domestic assault.

Two SiRT investigators responded to the scene shortly after being contacted by HRP and SiRT assumed responsibility for the investigation from that point forward under authority of the *Police Act*.

The SiRT investigation was completed on January 24, 2013. During the investigation, SiRT interviewed six civilian witnesses, and notes and reports were received from four police witnesses.

On January 24, 2013 one charge of assault contrary to section 266 of the *Criminal Code* was laid against Cst. Lambert, alleged to have occurred on January 3, 2013.

Relevant Legal Issues

An assault is committed whenever a person intentionally applies force against another without their consent. Any such offence must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt before the accused can be found guilty.

Conclusion

This report is filed to meet the requirements of the *Police Act*, which mandates that the SiRT Director file a public summary of an investigation within three months of its completion. However, this matter is currently before the courts, returning to Halifax Provincial Court on May 16, 2103 for plea. In accordance with SiRT policy, 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. 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.