



Summary of Investigation

SiRT File # 2013-020

Halifax Regional Police Service

August 6, 2013

Ronald J. MacDonald, QC

Director

April 9, 2014

Facts

On August 6, 2013 SiRT was contacted by the Halifax Regional Police (HRP) about an allegation of sexual assault they had received from an adult woman against a male constable. In accordance with the provisions of the *Police Act* HRP referred the matter to SiRT that same day. The allegations relate to an incident occurring at the woman's home on July 6, 2013. On August 12, SiRT began the investigation. On August 20, 2013, SiRT investigators arrested Cst. Dennis Dale Kelsey, a 57-year-old member of HRP. Cst. Kelsey entered a not guilty plea to the charge on March 3, 2014, and the matter has been set for trial in Halifax Provincial Court on November 17 and 18, 2014.

SiRT's investigation concluded on March 6, 2014. The completion of the investigation awaited the completion of forensic testing and the setting of a trial date. During the investigation SiRT interviewed or received reports from three witness police officers, and four civilians, including the complainant.

Relevant Legal Issues

A sexual assault is committed whenever a person intentionally applies force against another without their consent, in circumstances of a sexual nature where the sexual integrity of the victim is compromised. Any criminal 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, as this matter is currently before the courts, 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.