

SiRT

SERIOUS INCIDENT
RESPONSE TEAM

Summary of Investigation

SiRT File # 2018-042

Referral from

RCMP – Southwest Nova District

November 24, 2018

Felix Cacchione
Director
March 19, 2019

Facts

SiRT was contacted in the late afternoon of Saturday, November 24, 2018, by the RCMP- Kings District after a third party contacted them regarding an allegation of assault against a female by Cst. Asad Mari, a member of the New Minas detachment, who was her boyfriend at the time. SiRT began an investigation into the complaint that day and completed it on January 4, 2019.

SiRT is mandated to investigate all allegations of domestic violence and/or assault against a police officer under the provisions of the *Police Act*.

The Affected Person (AP) was contacted on November 24, 2018 and arrangements were made to obtain an audio/video statement from her the following Monday. Later that same day, further information, this time concerning the unsafe storage of a firearm and pointing of a firearm by Cst. Mari was disclosed. As a result of this new information, the interview originally scheduled for Monday was conducted on Sunday. The AP provided an audio/video statement together with text messages sent to her by Cst. Mari and photos of her injuries. The investigation continued with statements being obtained from several other witnesses.

The investigation led to the conclusion that sufficient grounds existed to lay charges against Cst. Mari and on November 26, 2018, he was arrested for assault and careless use of a firearm. He was released on a Promise to Appear (PTA) in court on January 29, 2019.

On January 16, 2019 an Information was sworn alleging that Cst. Asad Mari, committed the offences of assault, careless storage of a firearm, careless use of a firearm and pointing a firearm. Cst. Mari appeared in court on January 29, 2019 and the case was adjourned to February 27, 2019. A trial has been scheduled for July 3, 2019.

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. As this matter is currently 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 might compromise the fair trial interests of the accused.

The Serious Incident Response Team Regulations made under the *Police Act* allow the director, should he/she choose, to provide a supplemental summary of the investigation at the conclusion of the prosecution.