

# SiRT

SERIOUS INCIDENT  
RESPONSE TEAM

Summary of Investigation  
SiRT File # 2021-008  
Public Referral Involving  
Cape Breton Regional Police  
February 1, 2021

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Director  
May 2, 2022

The Serious Incident Response Team (SiRT) was contacted on February 1, 2021, by the Affected Person (AP) who alleged that members of the Cape Breton Regional Police (CBRP) stole money, gold jewelry, an all-terrain vehicle and damaged two of his vehicles during a search of his property. The search was conducted under the authority of a Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) warrant on September 25, 2020. An investigation was commenced that day and concluded on April 14, 2022.

The following evidence was obtained, reviewed, and considered in the preparation of this report: the reports and/or notes of 11 police officers involved in the searches, the AP's statement provided to the SiRT investigator, photographs of the search locations and efforts made by the SiRT investigator to locate witnesses identified by the AP.

**Facts:**

In the late morning of September 25, 2020, members of the CBRP conducted a search for drugs, under a Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) warrant, of a residence and two outbuildings located on the same parcel of land as that of the AP's residence. More than a half of a kilogram of cocaine and a large quantity of money was found during this search. Later that same day the police, acting under the authority of a different CDSA warrant, searched the AP's residence and located a large quantity of money, one ounce of cocaine, individually packaged cannabis resin together with some motorcycle gang paraphernalia and other items.

The AP's allegations were not based on his personal observations or knowledge, but rather on information given to him by other persons who told the AP that they had photographs of the damage caused to his property. The AP did not identify any specific officers as being responsible for the alleged thefts and damage to property.

On February 5, 2021, the AP told the SiRT investigator that his girlfriend and a male friend both had photographs of the damage caused to his property which they were willing to provide to the investigator. The AP also stated that his girlfriend would contact the investigator.

The AP's girlfriend never contacted the investigator despite numerous messages being left on the girlfriend's telephone and with her mother asking that she contact the investigator. The girlfriend's mother assured the investigator that the messages had been relayed to her daughter. The girlfriend's mother also told the investigator she had personally seen some of the damage at the AP's residence caused by the police and was willing to provide a statement. Despite saying this and numerous follow-up requests by the investigator to meet with her, this person never followed up on her stated intentions.

The investigator also spoke with the AP's male friend about his alleged willingness to provide a statement and photographs of the damage. This person indicated that his knowledge of what occurred at the AP's residence was based on what the AP's girlfriend had told him. He also stated that he was not interested in becoming involved in this investigation.

**Relevant legal issues:**

None

**Conclusion:**

The AP's allegations of theft and damage to his property by members of the CBRP were based on what he said had been told to him by his girlfriend and his male friend. Neither of these persons were willing to speak with the investigator. Another person, who told the investigator that she had personally witnessed the damage allegedly caused by the police, avoided every effort made by the investigator to obtain her statement.

No evidence exists to support the AP's allegations of theft and damage to property. Accordingly, this file is closed.