



SIU SPECIAL
INVESTIGATIONS UNIT
UES UNITÉ
DES ENQUÊTES SPÉCIALES

Independent Investigations - Community Confidence • Enquêtes indépendantes - Confiance de la collectivité

NEWS RELEASE • COMMUNIQUÉ

SIU Lays Charges against Toronto Police Officer

MISSISSAUGA, ON (July 18, 2017) --- The Director of the Special Investigations Unit, Tony Loparco, has caused charges to be laid against a Toronto Police Service (TPS) officer in relation to the injuries sustained by a 19-year-old man during an interaction in Whitby in December of 2016.

The SIU was notified of the incident on April 27, 2017 by the man's lawyer. The Unit's investigation found the following:

- At approximately 2 a.m. on December 28, 2016, a TPS off-duty officer was involved in an interaction with the man in the area of Thickson Road and William Stephenson Drive.
- Officers with the Durham Regional Police Service arrived and arrested the man.
- The man was taken to hospital where he was diagnosed with serious injuries.

As a result of the SIU investigation, TPS Constable Michael Theriault is facing the following charges under the *Criminal Code*:

- One count of *aggravated assault*, contrary to section 268;
- One count of *assault with a weapon*, contrary to section 267(a); and
- One count of *public mischief*, contrary to section 140.

The officer was arrested by the SIU on July 18, 2017 and subsequently released and required to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice at 150 Bond Street in Oshawa on August 10, 2017.

The matter is now properly before the courts. In consideration of the fair trial interests of the accused, the SIU will make no further comment.

The SIU is an arm's length agency that investigates reports involving police where there has been death, serious injury or allegations of sexual assault. Under the Police Services Act, the Director of the SIU must

- *consider whether an officer has committed a criminal offence in connection with the incident under investigation*
- *depending on the evidence, lay a criminal charge against the officer if appropriate or close the file without any charges being laid*
- *report the results of any investigations to the Attorney General.*

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