



MEDIA STATEMENT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH

October 18, 2016

16-23

Charge Approved Against Surrey Police Officer

Victoria - The Criminal Justice Branch, Ministry of Justice (CJB) announced today that a charge of Luring a Child has been approved against RCMP Cst. Dario Devic as a result of an investigation into conduct that is alleged to have occurred between August 29, 2016 and September 7, 2016 at or near Surrey. The charge alleges communications during this period between Cst. Devic and person he believed to be under the age of 16. It is an offence to communicate by means of telecommunication with a person who is under the age of 16, or who is believed to be under the age of 16, for the purpose of facilitating sexual conduct.

On September 9, 2016, the Surrey RCMP arrested Cst. Devic in relation to this matter and laid an Information under the *Criminal Code* charging him with Luring a Child and Breach of Trust by a Public Officer. He was released on bail. The RCMP subsequently sent a Report to Crown Counsel (RCC) to the CJB for formal charge assessment.

After a full review of all the available evidence, the Branch has concluded that the charge of Breach of Trust by a Public Officer does not meet the Branch's charge assessment standard. As such, a replacement (or "C") Information has been laid and Cst. Devic is now charged with one count of Luring a Child.

Information 218802-C-2 charging Cst. Devic with a single count of Luring a Child contrary to section 172.1 of the *Criminal Code* was sworn on October 17, 2016 at Provincial Court in Surrey. Cst. Devic's next appearance is scheduled for October 19, 2016 at Surrey Provincial Court.

The Charge Assessment Guidelines applied by the Criminal Justice Branch in reviewing all Reports to Crown Counsel are established in Branch policy and are available online at:

www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/cha-1-charge-assessment-guidelines.pdf

Branch Vision

Courageous, Fair and Efficient – A Prosecution Service that has the Confidence of the Public.

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Ministry of Justice and Attorney General

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The BC Prosecution Service policy on allegations against police officers can be found here:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/pol-1-police-allegations-against.pdf>

As this matter remains before the Court, CJB is unable to release additional information or comment further at this time, either about the charge that has been approved or the reasons for not proceeding with a prosecution for Breach of Trust by a Public Officer.

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To learn more about B.C.'s criminal justice system visit the British Columbia Prosecution Service website at:

www.gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice