



MEDIA STATEMENT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH

July 6, 2011

11-14

Special Prosecutor Appointed

Victoria - The Criminal Justice Branch of the Ministry of Attorney General today announced that Mark R. Jetté has been appointed as an independent Special Prosecutor in connection with an RCMP investigation involving Member of the Legislative Assembly Patrick Pimm.

Mr. Jetté, a senior Vancouver lawyer, was appointed on July 4, 2011 by acting Assistant Deputy Attorney General Brian W. Rendell to review a Report to Crown Counsel prepared in relation to an incident alleged to have occurred on June 26, 2011 in Fort St. John. Given Mr. Pimm's position as an M.L.A., Mr. Rendell concluded that it was appropriate to appoint a Special Prosecutor.

Mr. Jetté's mandate includes:

- Conducting an independent charge assessment review of the Report to Crown Counsel submitted by the investigative agency and making whatever charging decision he deems appropriate.
- Offering such legal advice as is necessary to the police in the event that further investigation by them is required;
- Providing a written report to the Assistant Deputy Attorney General, with the results of his review and the reasons for his decision;
- If in his view a prosecution is warranted, continuing that prosecution and any subsequent appeal.

The Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Justice Branch appoints Special Prosecutors pursuant to the Crown Counsel Act when there is a significant potential for real or perceived improper influence in the administration of criminal justice.

The decisions of Special Prosecutors are final, subject only to receiving written directions from the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General or the Assistant Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Justice Branch. In such an event, those directions must be made public by publishing them in the Gazette.

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As this matter is currently under review, the Special Prosecutor and the Criminal Justice Branch will not be releasing any additional details at this time.

This Media Statement has been reviewed by the Special Prosecutor and he has approved its release.

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