



MEDIA STATEMENT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH

July 13, 2011

11-15

Decision of Special Prosecutor Announced

Victoria – Independent Special Prosecutor Mark R. Jetté has concluded that no criminal charges will be laid in connection with an RCMP investigation involving Member of the Legislative Assembly Patrick Pimm.

Having considered all of the materials submitted by police and after interviewing potential witnesses, Mr. Jetté determined that the available evidence does not provide a substantial likelihood of conviction and therefore does not support the laying of any criminal charges. Mr Jetté's review included information not initially available to the police.

Given that Mr. Jetté has concluded that the circumstances of the alleged incident do not meet the charge assessment standard for approval of charges, it would not be appropriate at this time to release additional details of the evidence which he reviewed.

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 included:

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

Criminal Justice Branch HQ
Ministry of Attorney General

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9276 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9J7

Office Location:
9th Floor, 1001 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9J7
Telephone: (250) 387-3840
Fax: (250) 387-0090

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.

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

Media Contact:	Neil MacKenzie Communications Counsel Criminal Justice Branch (250) 387-5169	Mark R. Jetté Special Prosecutor (604) 669-6699
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