



MEDIA STATEMENT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH

August 8, 2013

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Charges Approved Against Officer Involved in Cranbrook Shooting

Victoria - The Criminal Justice Branch of the Ministry of Justice, British Columbia's prosecution service, announced today that it has approved charges against Constable Richard Drought of the R.C.M.P in connection with an incident alleged to have occurred in Cranbrook on October 2, 2012. Charges of intentionally discharging a firearm into a motor vehicle knowing that another person was in the motor vehicle, and of intentionally discharging a firearm while being reckless as to the life or safety of another person, both offences contrary to section 244.2 of the Criminal Code, were sworn August 7, 2013 in British Columbia Provincial Court in Cranbrook. (Court file 30589-1) An appearance in the matter is scheduled for September 16, 2013 in Cranbrook.

Charges were approved following a review of an investigative report forwarded to the Branch by the Independent Investigations Office on April 3, 2013. The investigation related to a police pursuit involving an on duty officer and a second vehicle with two occupants. At the conclusion of the pursuit the officer allegedly discharged his firearm.

The charge assessment review was conducted by a senior prosecutor who does not work in the same region as the police officer.

Given that this matter is now before the court, no further statement will be made and no additional information will be provided by the Branch at this time.

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

<http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/prosecution-service/>

or Justice B.C. :

www.justicebc.ca/en/cjis/index.html

Branch Vision

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

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