



MEDIA ADVISORY

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH

March 19, 2015

15-02

Crown Proceeds by Direct Indictment in R. v. Handlen

Victoria – The Criminal Justice Branch, Ministry of Justice (CJB) has filed a Direct Indictment in the prosecution of Garry Taylor Handlen. The Indictment charges Mr. Handlen with two counts of first degree murder in the deaths of Kathryn-Mary Herbert and Monica Ross Jack, and was filed in the British Columbia Supreme Court Registry in Vancouver on March 16, 2015. The first appearance on the Indictment is scheduled for March 20, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Vancouver. This appearance is expected to be brief.

As a result of the Direct Indictment, the prosecution has now moved into the Supreme Court and CJB will direct a Stay of Proceedings on the original Provincial Court file, which was file number 81863-1 in the Abbotsford Court Registry.

CJB's policy on Direct Indictments is publicly accessible on line at:

<http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/prosecution-service/policy-man/pdf/DIR1-DirectIndictment.pdf>

While a matter is before the court, CJB is unable to discuss or disclose the specific factors considered in reaching a decision to proceed by Direct Indictment. As a result, CJB cannot provide additional information at this time.

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

<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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