



April 6, 2021

21-06

BC Prosecution Service announces charges against VPD officer following arrest of theft suspect

Victoria – The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that charges of assault with a weapon, attempting to obstruct justice, and dangerous driving have been approved against Vancouver Police Cst. Jonathan Kempton in connection with the arrest of a shoplifting suspect on May 9, 2019 in Vancouver.

An Information charging Cst. Kempton with two counts of assault with a weapon contrary to section 267(a) of the *Criminal Code*, one count of attempting to obstruct justice contrary to section 139(2) of the *Criminal Code*, and one count of dangerous driving contrary to section 320.13(1) of the *Criminal Code* was sworn on April 6, 2021 under Provincial Court file number 261970. The first appearance on this matter is scheduled for May 4, 2021 in Vancouver Provincial Court.

The charges were approved by an experienced Crown Counsel with no prior or current connection with the officer. The charge assessment guidelines applied by the BC Prosecution Service in reviewing all Reports to Crown Counsel are established in the BC Prosecution Service Crown Counsel Policy Manual and are available online at:

www.gov.bc.ca/charge-assessment-guidelines

BCPS guidelines for assessing allegations against Peace Officers are also established in policy and are available at:

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

As this matter is now before the court the BCPS will not be releasing additional information or commenting further at this time.

Media Contact: Dan McLaughlin
Communications Counsel
Daniel.McLaughlin@gov.bc.ca
250.387.5169

To learn more about BC's criminal justice system, visit the British Columbia Prosecution Service website at: gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice or follow [@bcprosecution](https://twitter.com/bcprosecution) on Twitter.