



August 29, 2022

22-14

BC Prosecution Service approves charges against RCMP Officer

Victoria – The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that charges have been approved against Cst. Olavo Castro, an RCMP officer with BC Highway Patrol, in connection with an off-duty incident on July 1, 2022 in Williams Lake, BC.

An information charging Cst. Castro with one count of occupying a vehicle knowing there was a restricted firearm, contrary to section 94 of the *Criminal Code* and one count of unauthorized possession of a loaded restricted firearm in a motor vehicle, contrary to section 95 of the *Criminal Code*, was sworn on August 29, 2022, under Williams Lake Provincial Court file number 37916. The first appearance on this matter is scheduled for October 5, 2022, in Williams Lake 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:

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.

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