

# SiRT

SERIOUS INCIDENT  
RESPONSE TEAM

## Summary of Investigation

SiRT File # 2017-007

Referral from Halifax Regional Police

February 10, 2017

Ronald J. MacDonald, QC

Director

March 8, 2017

**Facts**

On February 10, 2017, SiRT was contacted by the Halifax Regional Police (HRP) about an allegation of breach of probation against an HRP officer. That officer pled guilty to assault last year. SiRT opened an investigation into that matter that day. The investigation was completed on March 6, 2017.

During the investigation SiRT interviewed four civilian witnesses and reviewed relevant court documentation.

On November 29, 2016 Jason Richard Murray, an HRP officer, pled guilty in the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia to one count of assault. He was granted a conditional discharge, and was placed on an eight-month probation order. A condition of that order was that he have no direct or indirect contact with the victim in that matter. A witness interviewed in the investigation provided information that alleges that condition of the order was breached on February 9, 2017.

**Relevant Legal Issues:**

The offence of Breach of Probation is committed when a person performs an act that is prohibited by the terms of the relevant court order.

Where reasonable grounds exist to believe a criminal offence has been committed, the Director may charge the police officer. Any offence must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt before the accused can be found guilty.

**Conclusion:**

On Friday, March 10, 2017, Jason Richard Murray will be charged with one count of Breach of Probation. He has been arrested and released on conditions, and is due to appear in Dartmouth Provincial Court on April 18, 2017.

While this investigation led to the conclusion there were sufficient grounds to lay the above noted charge, as this matter is currently before the courts, in accordance with SiRT policy this report will not discuss the facts of that matter in any further detail. To do otherwise might compromise the fair trial interests of the accused.

The Serious Incident Response Team Regulations under the *Police Act* state that the Director may choose to provide a supplemental summary of the investigation at the conclusion of the prosecution.