



**IN THE MATTER OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO AN INCIDENT INVOLVING  
SERIOUS INJURIES RELATED TO WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE ARREST**

**FINAL REPORT OF THE CIVILIAN DIRECTOR**  
**OF THE INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT**

Acting Civilian Director: Bruce M. Sychuk

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## **Introduction**

On Feb. 18, 2025, the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) notified the Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) of an incident.

The written notification disclosed the following information:

Excerpt from Part 7 Notification received on Feb. 18, 2025:

*On Monday February 17, 2025, Winnipeg police members stationary in a parking lot in a marked cruiser car in the area of Henderson Hwy. While in the parking lot, members observed a vehicle go past them at a high rate of speed.*

*Members attempted to catch up to the vehicle, and once they had done so, attempted to initiate a traffic stop by activating their lights and siren. The suspect vehicle then attempted to evade members by fleeing at a high rate of speed while in the area of Henderson Highway and Johnson Avenue. Members voiced that they were not attempting to pursue the suspect vehicle but following at a distance. At one-point members transmitted that they had lost sight of the suspect vehicle.*

*Air1 subsequently reported that they were in the area and had located the suspect vehicle. The suspect vehicle had rear-ended another vehicle then crashed into a light standard on the north-east corner of Chief Peguis/Henderson*

*CW1, who was the passenger of the vehicle attempted to flee on foot but was apprehended a short distance away from the crash scene. API was trapped in the vehicle and needed to be extricated by WFPS. API and CW1 were transported to hospital for treatment.*

*As result of the collision, API sustained a fracture to his leg and hypothermia due to the time needed to extract him from the vehicle. As a result, the IIU was notified and took carriage of the investigation.*

As this matter concerned injuries during an arrest, the IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 66(4) of The Police Services Act. IIU investigators were assigned to this investigation.

IIU investigators obtained the following information from the WPS, among other items:

- notes, narratives and reports of officers
- audio transmissions
- air1 video
- traffic light footage
- traffic analyst report
- medical reports
- civilian video

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The civilian director declined to designate a subject officer. The civilian director designated two witness officers (WO1 to WO2). IIU investigators also received information from the affected person and three civilian witnesses (CW1 to CW3).

## **Facts and Circumstances**

### **Scene Examination**

IIU investigators attended to the scene and received further video footage from the area. IIU investigators did not canvass the area because they had already been given the names of the witnesses by WPS.

## **Interviews**

### **Affected Person**

AP was interviewed by IIU investigators on Feb. 20, 2025, and provided the following information:

AP immediately mentioned in the interview that he just pulled onto the street and the police, for no reason, lit up their lights. AP stated he was nervous around police because of past experiences, which resulted in his poor decision. AP assumed there must have been an accident as the next thing he recalled was being pinned in the car with medical services attempting to remove him.

AP confirmed that he was driving and that CW1 was in the passenger seat. AP said that he saw a police vehicle in a parking lot. AP stated that he stopped at a stop sign and then took a few turns at which point he noticed the police vehicle was now behind him. AP stated that the vehicle was just following until he got onto Henderson Highway, at which point the vehicle lights went on. AP stated that he went straight on Henderson and that his recollection of what happened before the crash was not entirely clear. AP could not recall seeing the police vehicle following him and could not recall if he was speeding. AP believed that he lost control of the vehicle because the roads were slippery, and he did not recall what he crashed into or where his vehicle ended up after impact.

### **Civilian Witnesses**

#### **Civilian Witness 1 (CW1)**

CW1 was interviewed by IIU investigators on Feb. 19, 2025, and provided the following information:

CW1 stated that he had been at a friend's place and asked AP to drive him home. CW1 stated that he was not watching AP drive for the most part and was looking down at his phone. CW1 was aware that they were on Henderson Highway and that they were traveling fast. AP did not see any police vehicle at any point.

CW1 stated that just before the crash, he was trying to get his seatbelt off as he was concerned that they were going to crash because of the speed. After they crashed, CW1 tried to get AP out of the vehicle, but AP said he was pinned and that his legs hurt. CW1 began to flee after he heard someone yelling. CW1 confirmed that the only time he saw police during the incident was when they chased him down and arrested him.

### Civilian Witness 2 (CW2)

CW2 was interviewed by IIU investigators on Feb. 18, 2025, and provided the following information:

CW2 was travelling on Henderson Highway and saw the vehicle AP was driving going at an extreme speed. CW2 stated that the speed was so alarming that he called 911 to report AP's vehicle. CW2 estimated AP's vehicle was going 150 kilometres (km/h) in a 60 km/h zone.

CW2 continued to drive in the same direction as AP's vehicle and came upon the crash, roughly five minutes after he had called 911. CW2 stated that the first time he saw a police vehicle, was approximately a minute before he came upon the crash.

### Civilian Witness 3 (CW3)

CW3 was interviewed by IIU investigators on Feb. 20, 2025, and provided the following information:

CW3 stated that just before the crash, her vehicle was stopped on Chief Peguis waiting for the lights to change. CW3 turned when the light turned green, and she was struck in the rear by AP's vehicle. CW3 did not recall seeing any police vehicles or hearing any sirens at the time of the crash.

CW3 moved her vehicle over to the side and still did not notice any police vehicles in the area. CW3 did recall exiting her vehicle and hearing a helicopter in the air, but she went back into her vehicle. Roughly two minutes later, she saw police officers involved in a foot chase.

CW3 was seen by an officer and medical staff roughly twenty minutes after the crash and then left the area.

## **Witness Officers**

### Witness Officer 1 (WO1)

WO1 was interviewed by IIU investigators on April 11, 2025, and provided the following information:

WO1 stated that AP's vehicle caught their attention in the Elmwood area because it was driving erratically and did not stop at a stop sign. WO1 and her partner WO2 decided they would conduct a traffic stop because of AP's erratic driving. WO1 activated their vehicle's lights and siren, which resulted in AP's vehicle speeding off to get away from the officers.

WO1 followed behind AP's vehicle for a short distance before deciding to call off the pursuit because of the high speed of AP's vehicle. WO1 did not believe it was safe to pursue a traffic stop, because she estimated that AP's vehicle was travelling at approximately 150 km/h. WO1 confirmed that they lost sight of AP's vehicle because of the excessive speed and turned off the siren and lights.

WO2 radioed in what had just occurred and air1 became involved in trying to locate AP's vehicle. They continued in the same direction as AP's vehicle and were informed by air1 that the vehicle had crashed into a pole. WO1 stated that they arrived at the crash scene approximately a minute later. When they arrived, they initiated a foot chase for CW1. WO1 returned to the scene

of the crash after CW1 was arrested, and they saw emergency services attempting to assist AP who was pinned in the vehicle.

WO1 noted the traffic at the time of the incident was light to moderate. WO1 stated that the area of the crash site was well lit.

#### Witness Officer 2 (WO2)

WO2 was interviewed by IIU investigators on April 11, 2025, and provided the following information:

WO2 confirmed he was partnered with WO1 and that AP's vehicle caught their attention because it was driving at a high speed. WO2 stated that as they followed AP's vehicle, it ran a stop sign at which point they decided to conduct a traffic stop. WO2 confirmed that they activated the siren and lights to alert the driver. At that point, AP's vehicle drove away at a very high speed. WO2 confirmed that after a brief pursuit, they called off the chase as it was too risky because of the excessive speed of AP's vehicle. WO2 confirmed that they deactivated their lights and siren and radioed air1 for assistance.

WO2 confirmed that air1 informed them that AP's vehicle had collided with a pole. WO2 stated that they arrived on scene roughly two minutes after being told about the crash by air1. When they arrived at the crash scene, they saw CW1 flee the vehicle and chased after him. They arrested CW1 after a brief foot chase and then returned to the scene of the crash. WO2 noted that traffic during the incident was moderate.

### **Other evidence**

#### Medical Report

Medical records showed that AP suffered a left tibial plateau fracture that required surgery.

#### Video Footage of the Vehicle

In reviewing all the video footage provided, it is clear to anyone that AP was driving at excessive speeds and erratically. AP had a couple of near misses before he finally collided with a vehicle. Police were on scene roughly a minute and a half after the crash.

#### Traffic Analyst Report

The analyst report confirmed that AP was driving at extreme speeds and in an erratic manner. The report suggested that the average speed for AP's vehicle was 171 km/h during the portion caught by video footage. The speed of AP's vehicle five seconds before the crash was 114 km/h. Images of AP's vehicle when losing control and after the crash below:



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### **Applicable Law**

All relevant sections of the Criminal Code of Canada were considered with respect to this incident. Sec. 25(1) of the Criminal Code of Canada has been emphasized here for consideration:

*25 (1) Every one who is required or authorized by law to do anything in the administration or enforcement of the law*

- (a) as a private person,*
- (b) as a peace officer or public officer,*
- (c) in aid of a peace officer or public officer, or*
- (d) by virtue of his office,*

*is, if he acts on reasonable grounds, justified in doing what he is required or authorized to do and in using as much force as is necessary for that purpose.*

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**Conclusion**

After a complete review of the evidence in connection with the lack of a subject officer designation, the civilian director is declining to lay charges in this matter. Therefore, no charges are recommended and the IIU investigation is now completed and closed.