



OFFICE OF THE
POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER

British Columbia, Canada

MEDIA RELEASE

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POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER ORDERS A PUBLIC HEARING

Victoria - The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner announced today a Public Hearing into an allegation of police misconduct with respect to Constable Jessie Tiwana of the Vancouver Police Department.

On August 15, 2012, at approximately 8:00 pm, members of the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) responded to a call of a robbery in progress. It is alleged that the suspect, later identified as Mr. Ryan Felton, robbed a store and fled. While attempting to flee, it is alleged that Mr. Felton attempted to hijack a vehicle and then enter a residence a short distance away. VPD members attended the location and arrested Mr. Felton.

On August 16, 2012, the VPD received information from CBC in relation to the arrest and Mr. Felton, indicating that one of the officers in attendance had been captured on video kicking Mr. Felton in the chest while he was handcuffed behind his back. It was determined that the member captured on video kicking Mr. Felton was Constable #2198 Jessie Tiwana.

The allegation was investigated and adjudicated through the police disciplinary process. The Discipline Authority determined that misconduct had not been proven in relation to the allegation.

Having reviewed the investigation, discipline proceedings and determinations to date, Police Complaint Commissioner, Stan T. Lowe, has determined that a public hearing into this matter is necessary as there is a reasonable basis to believe that the Discipline Authority's finding is incorrect. The Commissioner is also of the view that a public hearing is necessary in the public interest.

Stan T. Lowe
Police Complaint Commissioner

5th Floor, 947 Fort Street
PO Box 9895 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 9T8
Tel: (250) 356-7458 / Fax: (250) 356-6503

Upon the recommendation of the Associate Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, the Honourable Carol Baird Ellan, retired Provincial Court Judge, is appointed to preside as Adjudicator in these proceedings, pursuant to section 142(2) of the *Police Act*.

A date for the public hearing will be determined in the future.

Details may be found in the *Notice of Public Hearing* located at www.opcc.bc.ca.

Media Contact: Rollie Woods, Deputy Police Complaint Commissioner
1-250-356-7458