

OFFICE OF THE POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER

British Columbia, Canada

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release December 2, 2016

OPCC 2011-6657/2012-8138 PH 2016-01

POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER ORDERS A PUBLIC HEARING

Victoria - The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner today announced a Public Hearing into allegations of misconduct with respect to Constable Edgar Diaz of the South Coast BC Transporation Authority Police Service (SCBCTAPS).

On August 18, 2011, the Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner received information from SCBCTAPS in which allegations of professional misconduct against Constable Edgar Diaz were raised, including unnecessary force. During the course of the investigation, other allegations of professional misconduct were identified and investigated.

Two of the allegations have been adjudicated through the disciplinary process. The Discipline Authority determined that one allegation misconduct was proven, proposing a suspension and training as disciplinary measures.

The Police Complaint Commissioner has determined that a public hearing is necessary in the public interest in relation to both allegations of professional misconduct against Constable Diaz.

Upon the recommendation of the Associate Chief Justice of the British Columbia Supreme Court, retired Supreme Court Judge the Honourable Ronald McKinnon 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 <u>www.opcc.bc.ca</u>.

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

Stan T. Lowe Police Complaint Commissioner