



OFFICE OF THE
POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER

British Columbia, Canada

NEWS RELEASE

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Review on the Record into the conduct of a Surrey member for Improper Disclosure of Information

Victoria - The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner (OPCC) has arranged a Review on the Record into the findings of a Discipline Authority relating to an allegation of *Improper Disclosure of Information* against a member of the Surrey Police Service (SPS).

The member was investigated under the *Police Act* for disclosing to the media information from a police database pertaining to the operations of the Surrey Operations Communications Centre. Following an investigation by the Metro Vancouver Transit Police Department, it was determined that the member did not commit misconduct.

In his Notice of Review on the Record issued today, the Police Complaint Commissioner has determined a review into this matter was required, noting several concerns with respect to the decision by the Discipline Authority. In the Commissioner's view, this disclosure has "potentially harmful implications for trust and cooperation between the Surrey RCMP and the SPS, and in turn, public confidence in policing." Accordingly, the Commissioner has determined it is in public interest to appoint a retired judge to independently review this matter and arrive at a determination.

Mr. Brian Neal, K.C., retired Provincial Court Judge, will preside as the adjudicator of the Review on the Record, which has yet to be scheduled.

Updates on the review will be shared on the OPCC website.

The full notice of review is available [here](#).

About the OPCC and Reviews on the Record:

- The Police Complaint Commissioner is a civilian, independent Officer of the Legislature overseeing complaints, investigations and discipline involving municipal police in British Columbia. For more on the OPCC, visit <https://opcc.bc.ca/about-us/>

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- Discipline Authorities are generally senior ranking police officers who are required under the *Police Act* to make determinations regarding the investigation and discipline of police officers alleged to have committed misconduct.
- The Police Complaint Commissioner can order a Review on the Record in lieu of a Public Hearing in cases where he is satisfied that it is unnecessary to cross-examine witnesses or receive additional evidence and when a Public Hearing is not required to preserve or restore public confidence.
- A Review on the Record is a form of adjudicative review in which the adjudicator, a Retired Judge, conducts a “paper review” of all evidence and materials from the investigation and discipline hearing. The adjudicator may also receive submissions from the respondent member’s counsel, the Police Complaint Commissioner’s counsel, the complainant and the Discipline Authority before rendering his/her decision. More on the OPCC’s involvement in and processes for complaints involving police and misconduct allegations: <https://opcc.bc.ca/police-faq/>
- An adjudicator must determine whether there is misconduct and, if so, determine the corrective or disciplinary measures to be imposed. The adjudicator’s decision at a Review on the Record is final and conclusive.

Note to media: The OPCC is unable to comment on this review while it is underway. For general queries related to the OPCC’s role and processes, please contact:

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