

January 27, 2026

OPCC File: 2015-11014  
PH: 2024-02

## STATEMENT

### **BC Police Complaint Commissioner appoints Brock Martland KC as new Public Hearing Counsel for proceedings examining officer conduct resulting in the death of Myles Gray**

*Prabhu Rajan, Police Complaint Commissioner, has released the following statement regarding the resignation of Brad Hickford and appointment of Brock Martland KC as Public Hearing Counsel:*

“I have today appointed Brock Martland KC as new public hearing counsel at the public hearing dealing with the allegations of police misconduct relating to the death of Myles Gray.

“As has been widely reported, a vulgar and offensive comment was uttered in the public hearing room on January 21, 2026. The comment was completely contrary to my values and those of the Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner. My office and I have repeatedly declared firm commitment to addressing sexualized behaviour in municipal policing.

“After discussions about the possible source of the remark, Mr. Hickford announced his resignation. While Adjudicator Elizabeth Arnold-Bailey encouraged parties yesterday to consider his possible return as a means of ensuring the public hearing could proceed on its merits, concerns remained. I agreed with counsel for the respondent police officers that the appointment of new public hearing counsel was both necessary and appropriate to ensure the fairness and integrity of the public hearing and maintain public confidence in this process.

“Today, Mr. Hickford indicated through counsel that he declined to return in all the circumstances. I believe this is the correct decision.

“The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner has worked quickly, and in consultation with the parties, to find a solution that would allow the public hearing to resume as quickly as possible. We are fortunate that a lawyer as experienced and respected as Mr. Martland KC has agreed to take on this critical role on short notice in such an important case.

"It is of paramount importance to me and my office to ensure that the issues raised by the allegations of police misconduct in this case can be fully and fairly addressed as soon as possible. The focus must remain on the events that resulted in the tragic death of Mr. Gray.

"The role of Mr. Martland KC as the public hearing counsel, a role independent of the OPCC, will be to present the evidence relative to the allegations of misconduct at issue in the public hearing. My office will do everything in its power to help with an orderly transition of the file.

"As discussed at the public hearing earlier today, a pathway has been set for the case to move forward. The case is currently set to resume at 9:30 a.m. on February 24, 2026, for three weeks. Further details will be posted on the OPCC website as they come available, following further discussions with the Adjudicator, new public hearing counsel, and all other counsel."

The OPCC will not provide any further comments about the case while it is underway, other than through the Commissioner's counsel at the public hearing.

For more on the OPCC, visit <https://opcc.bc.ca/about-us/>

#### About the OPCC:

- 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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- 30 -