



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Police Service Board Report

CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA

Subject: Special Investigations Unit – Case Number 25-OCI-402 – Incident of October 6, 2025

Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Service Board

Report Date: 2026-03-18

Confidential Report

Confidential Report with respect to the legal matter of an identifiable individual – *Community Safety and Policing Act, s. 44(2)(b)* “personal matters about an identifiable individual, including members of the police service or any other employees of the board” and *Community Safety and Policing Act 2019, s.44(2)(e)* “litigation or potential litigation affecting the Board, including matters before administrative tribunals.”

Recommendation(s)

- 1. That the Niagara Police Service Board (Board) receive this report for information.**
- 2. That the Board makes the report available to the public.**

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to advise the Board of the findings and any action taken or recommended by the Chief of Police following a notification and investigation of an incident by the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). Section 81 of the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (CSPA) requires that the Chief of Police initiate an investigation following a notification to the SIU.
- The purpose of the Chief's investigation is to review the member's conduct in relation to the incident, the policing provided by the member in relation to the incident, and the procedures established by the Chief of Police as they related to the incident.
- On October 6, 2025, police attended a St. Catharines residence to check on the welfare of a tenant who was reportedly behaving unusually and had consumed methamphetamine and appeared to be hallucinating. Officers engaged verbally with the male through his bedroom door. He became increasingly distressed and jumped from a second-storey window into the backyard suffering a fractured pelvis, ruptured spleen, and broken ribs, believed to have resulted from the fall. The SIU was notified and invoked its mandate.

- On January 26, 2026, the SIU notified the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) that their investigation had concluded and advised that there were no grounds for criminal charges against the involved officers.
- The subsequent section 81 investigation by the NRPS Professional Standards Unit determined there were no issues with respect to officer conduct, policies or services provided by the NRPS.

Financial Considerations

There are no financial implications relating to the recommendations contained in this report.

Analysis

On October 6, 2025, police responded to an address in the City of St. Catharines at the request of a complainant who asked police to check on the welfare of another tenant (affected person) who was reportedly acting unusual.

Officers arrived and spoke with affected person through his bedroom door. The affected person told the officers he had consumed methamphetamine, and it appeared that he was suffering from hallucinations. Officers continued to speak with affected person through the bedroom door when he requested that they go to the rear yard so he could verify that they were police. When the officers arrived in the backyard, they called out to the affected person, but he did not engage with them.

Officers returned inside the residence and attempted to speak with the affected person through the bedroom door and reassured him that paramedics were on their way to help. The affected person started yelling (as if he was being chased) and the officers could hear sounds of furniture being moved inside. Officers could still hear the affected person, but it sounded as if he were in the backyard. When officers went outside to check, it became apparent that the affected person had jumped from the second story window. When the officers approached him, he became combative and grabbed a small portable barbeque and started swinging it around. Additional officers arrived and the affected person was eventually subdued. He was placed onto a stretcher and transported to the Niagara Health System – St. Catharines for assessment.

The affected person was assessed by medical personnel, and it was determined that he suffered a fractured pelvis, ruptured spleen and broken ribs, believed to be because of his fall.

The SIU was notified of the incident and invoked their mandate accordingly.

On January 26, 2026, the SIU closed its investigation into this matter. In his decision letter SIU Director Mr. Joseph Martino wrote " *there were no reasonable grounds in the evidence to proceed with criminal charges.* "

A copy of the SIU report was publicly posted on the SIU's website.

In accordance with section 81, the Professional Standards Unit conducted an investigation and review of this incident, which considered the following 3 areas:

1. The member's conduct in relation to the incident;
2. The policing provided by the member(s) in relation to the incident; and
3. The procedures established by the chief of police as they related to the incident.

The section 81 investigation encompassed a compliance review of applicable provincial legislation, which governs members of the NRPS, as well as General Orders, policies and procedures, and the conduct of the involved officers.

Where available, investigations include a review of communication recordings, NRPS occurrence reports, forensic evidence and reports, officer interviews conducted by the SIU and all duty book notes, SIU documentation including the Director's decision letter and report, statements of civilian witnesses gathered and released by the SIU at the conclusion of their investigation upon the consent of the civilian witnesses, and any other information and evidence available on a case by case basis.

1. Conduct of NRPS Officers

There were no officer conduct issues identified during the SIU investigation or the Professional Standards Unit investigation and review of this incident regarding compliance with General Orders or legislation.

2. Services Provided by the NRPS

There were no issues identified relating to the services provided by NRPS during this incident.

3. The Procedures of the NRPS

Professional Standards Unit investigators determined that the following General Orders had primary relevance in this matter, and they have been reviewed accordingly in the context of this incident.

- 1) General Order 079.10 – Special Investigations Unit
- 2) General Order 053.26 – Use of Force
- 3) General Order 100.10 – Powers of Arrest

- 4) General Order 034.11 – Report Submissions
- 5) General Order 168.06 – Officer Note Taking

Upon review, it was determined that the direction and guidance provided by the relevant General Orders was sufficient in its governance for members of the NRPS and no issues were identified.

The Professional Standards Unit investigation and review of this incident was undertaken in compliance with section 81 of the CSPA. The relevant procedures of the NRPS, the services provided, and the conduct of the involved NRPS members were the focus of this review and investigation.

In conclusion, there were no issues identified as it pertains to services provided, the conduct of the involved NRPS members, or the existing General Orders governing these situations.

Alternatives Reviewed

- 1) To not receive the report.
- 2) To not make the report available to the public.

The CSPA provides that meetings of the Board shall be open to the public subject to exceptions that are set out in subsection 44. The applicable exception to be considered in this case is the subject matter being considered includes, “personal matters about an identifiable individual, including members of the police service or any other employees of the board.”

In considering whether or not to make this report available to the public, it is respectfully submitted that the Board consider the following factors:

- 1) There are no public security matters revealed in this report.
- 2) This report does not reveal any intimate financial or personal matters.

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

Not applicable.

Relevant Policy Considerations

Not applicable.

Other Pertinent Reports

Not applicable.

This report was prepared by Jason Myers, Inspector, Professional Standards Unit and reviewed by Paul Koscinski, Superintendent, Executive Services. Recommended by Luigi Greco, Deputy Chief, Support Services.

T. WASELOVICH

Submitted by:

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Appendices

Not applicable.