



Serious Incident Response Team

NEWS RELEASE

March 27, 2024

SIRT-NL Lays Perjury and Obstruction Charges against an RCMP Officer in St. John's

A SIRT-NL investigation into a June 2023 incident in St. John's, involving an RCMP officer's testimony at the trial of another RCMP officer at Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador, has resulted in charges under the **Criminal Code**. The subject officer, Cst. Paul Durdle, has since resigned but was an active officer at the time of the alleged offence. SIRT-NL director Michael King has charged Durdle with:

1. Perjury, contrary to s. 131(1) of the **Criminal Code**.
2. Obstructing Justice, contrary to s. 139(2) of the **Criminal Code**.

The subject officer has been given a court date for May 14, 2024 at 9:30am.

Director King advised today that SIRT-NL received notification of the alleged offence from the RCMP. Following the report, King directed a SIRT-NL investigation.

SIRT-NL is a civilian led oversight agency, which conducts its own investigations into serious incidents. Serious incidents within this context are those involving serious injury, death, sexual offence, domestic violence or any matter of significant public interest arising from the actions of a police officer in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Because this matter will now proceed through court, SIRT-NL will make no further comment.

For further inquiries, please contact:

sirtinfo@sirtnl.ca

1 (709) 738-7478 or (toll free) 1-833-738-7478