

Manitoba Ombudsman

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May 15, 2018

Danny Smyth
Chief of Police
Winnipeg Police Service
P.O. Box 1680
Winnipeg, MB R3C 2Z7

Inquest into the Death of Lance Muir Our file: 2018-0196

Dear Chief Smyth:

As you are aware, the Manitoba Ombudsman has a procedure for monitoring inquests called by the Chief Medical Examiner (CME) under the Fatality Inquiries Act. A Provincial Court Judge is assigned conduct of the inquest proceedings and following completion of the inquest, we obtain a copy of the inquest report issued by the Judge.

If the inquest report contains recommendations directed at or within the jurisdiction of a Manitoba government department or agency, or a municipal authority, we make inquiries to determine what action that office may be taking with respect to the recommendations.

The inquest report into the death of Lance Muir was released on April 23, 2018 and based on the findings of the Honourable Provincial Judge Cynthia A. Devine, no recommendations were made in this instance.


In the inquest report, it was the finding of Judge Devine that on May 9, 2010, in Winnipeg, Lance Muir was the driver of a vehicle that accelerated rapidly at a member of the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) who stopped the vehicle by discharging his firearm and consequently, Mr. Muir came to his death. Judge Devine concluded that there was nothing the WPS member could have done to change the outcome of the matter, and that the member's discharge of his firearm was justified, appropriate and in line with police policy and training. The Judge held that given her findings and conclusion, there were no recommendations she could make to prevent a similar death from occurring in the future.

In light of the above, this letter is for notification purposes only, as we have no further action(s) to take regarding this inquest. Accordingly, we will not be providing any report on the matter to

the Provincial Court Chief Judge. However, we will note on our website that no recommendations were issued on this inquest, and that our office is taking no further action and closing our file.

If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact me directly at (204) 982-9164, or Lara Badmus at (204) 982-9169.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. Cormier".

Marc Cormier,
Deputy Ombudsman
Ombudsman Division

cc: Kim Carswell, Legal Counsel, Winnipeg Police Service