

March 14, 2025

Via email: Dana_lee_ca@hotmail.com

Dana-lee Melfi


Dear Dana-lee Melfi:

Re: Public Complaint: Ottawa Police Service (OPS)
LECA Complaint Number: E-202410211407481365

Please note that as of April 1, 2024, the Office of the Independent Police Review Director (OIPRD) transitioned to become Law Enforcement Complaints Agency (LECA) under the *Community Safety and Policing Act*. Accordingly, the Independent Police Review Director will now be referred to as Complaints Director. As the incident that is the subject of your complaint has taken place prior to April 1, 2024, your complaint will continue to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the *Police Services Act R.S.O. 1990, c. P.15*.

In your complaint, you allege unlawful arrest and detention, unlawful search and seizure and not being provided your rights upon arrest. Additionally, the identity of the arresting officers were never provided you. Further into your complaint, you state that were turned over to the "Hands Off Team" where an officer provided you with a statutory caution and a secondary caution and then escorted you to the prisoner vehicle. You indicate that on January 22, 2024, you showed up for court and no judge showed up leading to the charges being withdrawn. You again indicate that you were never provided with the names of the arresting officers.

On February 18, 2025, based on the information provided in your complaint, the complaint was referred to OPS to conduct a conduct investigation.

On February 28, 2025, the OPS contacted LECA advising that OPS have confirmed the arresting officer is a member of the RCMP bearing badge number 57914. LECA only has jurisdiction over the conduct of police officers, special constables employed by the Niagara Parks Commission, and peace officers in the Legislative Protective Service as defined by section 151(1) of the CSPA. LECA does not have jurisdiction or authority to investigate police officers employed with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

In light of this new information and pursuant to Section 72 of the *Police Services Act*, the Complaints Director has decided that the investigation of your complaint should not proceed further. Accordingly, the Chief of OPS has been directed to **terminate** the investigation into your complaint. Accordingly, our file is now **closed**.

Please be advised that the *Police Services Act* does not provide a statutory right of appeal from the Complaints Director's decisions pursuant to section 72 of the *Police Services Act*. The only means of appeal for this decision is a judicial review made to the Divisional Court, a branch of the Superior Court of Justice. Information about the judicial review process is attached for your consideration.

To find out more about LECA and the *Police Services Act*, please visit our website at www.leca.ca.

Sincerely,
On behalf of the Complaints Director

Ann Tkachyk
Senior Investigator
Email: ann.tkachyk@ontario.ca

Information about Judicial Review

An application for judicial review must be made to the Divisional Court, a branch of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. For more information about the Divisional Court and the applicable procedure on a judicial review, please visit the website of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice at: <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/practice/practice-directions/divisional-court>. Should you wish to contact your local court office, the court locations and phone numbers are available at <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/contacting-the-court/court-locations>.

Please note that the LECA is unable to provide you with any legal advice or legal support. You may wish to seek more information about judicial review by obtaining independent legal advice. For assistance in finding a lawyer or a paralegal, please visit the Law Society of Ontario Referral Service website at <https://lso.ca/public-resources/finding-a-lawyer-or-paralegal/law-society-referral-service>. This is an online service, and to make a request you need to have access to a computer. However, for general inquiries to the Law Society of Ontario, you can contact them at 1-800-668-7380.

Pro Bono Ontario also provides free legal advice and support to self-represented litigants and people who may not be able to afford a lawyer. You may contact Pro Bono Ontario at 1-855-255-7256 or visit their website at <https://www.probonoontario.org/>.