

LEVEL 2

ASIRT DECISION

**IN THE MATTER OF AN INJURY DURING ARREST IN
EDMONTON ON AUGUST 20, 2024**

Acting Executive Director: Matthew Block

File No.: 2025-2002(N)

Date of Release: June 10, 2026

 **PRC** Police Review
Commission

ASIRT

Introduction

On Dec. 11, 2025, pursuant to s. 43.4(1) of the *Police Act*, the Chief Executive Officer of the Police Review Commission directed the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) to investigate injuries during the arrest of the affected person (AP) by Edmonton Police Service (EPS) officers on Aug. 20, 2024, as a Level 2 complaint. ASIRT's investigation focused on the use of a less-lethal baton launcher by the subject officer (SO). Due to the evidence gathered in the investigation, the SO was not formally designated. ASIRT's investigation is now complete.

ASIRT's Investigation

ASIRT's investigation was comprehensive and thorough, conducted using current investigative protocols, and in accordance with the principles of major case management.

ASIRT investigators interviewed the following civilian witnesses:

The AP; and

Civilian witness #1 (CW1), an associate of the AP who arrived at the scene shortly after the incident occurred.

ASIRT investigators obtained the AP's medical records.

ASIRT investigators obtained notes or reports or both from the following police officers:

Witness officer #1 (WO1), an EPS tactical officer using his conducted energy weapon (CEW) during the arrest;

Witness officer #2 (WO2), an EPS tactical officer assisting with the arrest;

Witness officer #3 (WO3), an EPS tactical officer assisting with the arrest;

Witness officer #4 (WO4), an EPS tactical officer using his CEW during the arrest;

Witness officer #5 (WO5), an EPS tactical officer using his CEW during the arrest; and

Witness officer #6 (WO6), an EPS tactical officer assisting with the arrest.

ASIRT investigators obtained cellphone video from CW1, which showed events after the physical arrest of the AP.

Circumstances Surrounding the Incident

On Aug. 19 and 20, 2024, the AP made calls to EPS threatening the chief of EPS. The AP later said that he made those calls because he was frustrated with comments that the chief made, and because these comments had intensified his mental health issues related to past interactions with police. On Aug. 20, EPS contacted the AP and, given the AP's threats toward police, the tactical team began planning around the AP's arrest for uttering threats.

Later that day, the AP parked at an Edmonton mall and got out of his vehicle. Tactical officers including the SO, WO1, WO2, WO3, WO4, WO5, and WO6 approached him and told him he was under arrest and to get on the ground. The AP later said that he decided then to fight them out of fear of being assaulted, and due to his mental health issues. The AP did not comply and instead yelled at the officers to shoot him.

The SO fired three rounds from his less-lethal baton launcher, striking the AP on his upper right thigh, left thigh, and right buttock. WO1, WO2, and WO5 then used their CEWs. The AP fell to the ground and

the officers moved in and arrested him. After he was arrested, the AP continued to yell, saying, "Kill me!" at one point.

The shot to the AP's upper right thigh resulted in a two-inch laceration. Once noticed, the tactical team paramedic treated the AP.

The AP, when interviewed, was forthcoming about his role in the incident and agreed with the details provided by the officers. The AP felt that the SO had targeted his groin with the shot that led to the injury.

Conclusion

On Aug. 20, the AP was arrestable for uttering threats against police officers. It was therefore reasonable for the EPS tactical team officers to take special precautions in arresting him. After they told the AP he was under arrest, he did not comply by his own admission. The officers proceeded quickly to uses of force, but only to low-end uses of force that are unlikely to cause serious injury. Their uses of force were authorized by law, reasonable, and not excessive. While it would have been excessive force to target the AP's groin with the baton launcher, there is no evidence that the SO did so.

There are not reasonable grounds to believe that an offence was committed by the SO.

Original Signed

Matthew Block

Acting Executive Director

June 10, 2026

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