



SIU SPECIAL
INVESTIGATIONS UNIT
UES UNITÉ
DES ENQUÊTES SPÉCIALES

Independent Investigations - Community Confidence • Enquêtes indépendantes - Confiance de la collectivité

REPORT ON CASES

Incident Date: February 21, 2005
Date of Director's Decision: August 8, 2005
05-TCD-023

On February 21, 2005 the Toronto Police Service (TPS) notified the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) of the death of Adeyeri Robinson.

Two SIU investigators were assigned to probe the extent of police involvement in the circumstances surrounding the man's death. The investigation found that at about 8:55 p.m. that evening, two TPS officers and paramedics went to a home on Bathurst Street in response to a woman's call for assistance for a man behaving in a strange manner. When they arrived, they found Mr. Robinson in an apparent catatonic state; he was standing in the living room, staring straight ahead, and unresponsive to the people around him.

The police told him he was under arrest under the *Mental Health Act* and would be taken to hospital for some help. When the officers took hold of the man's arm, he resisted and either fell to or was taken to the floor. The two officers struggled to take hold of Mr. Robinson so that the paramedics could administer a chemical sedative. After two injections, Mr. Robinson relaxed and was transported to hospital. Shortly after his arrival, he went into medical distress and died.

Having reviewed all the available evidence, Director James Cornish concluded there were no reasonable grounds to believe that either of the officers in this case committed any criminal offence. He stated the post mortem results demonstrated that no police action or inaction caused this man's unfortunate death.

The SIU is a civilian agency that investigates circumstances involving police and civilians which have resulted in serious injury, sexual assault or death. Under Part VII, Section 113, of the Police Services Act, the Director of the SIU has the sole authority to decide whether or not charges are warranted based on the findings of a complete investigation. The Director's decision is reported to the Attorney General.

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