

May 14, 2024

Via E-Mail: [latoya@bccla.org](mailto:latoya@bccla.org)

Latoya Farrell  
Policy Staff Counsel (Community)  
BC Civil Liberties Association  
306 - 268 Keefer Street  
Vancouver, BC, V6A 1X5

Dear Latoya Farrell,

**Re: OPCC 2024-25855 & 25857**

I am in receipt of your complaint, dated April 29, 2024, in which you outlined your concerns with the conduct of members of the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) at a public rally in Vancouver on November 19, 2023.

In your complaint, you raised concerns about VPD member #3099 wearing a “Thin Blue Line” patch on their uniform. You also raised concerns about VPD member #3390 wearing an “Israeli flag patch” on their uniform, while noting that there was a photograph on social media of this same member wearing the same patch on a different occasion.

Regarding VPD member #3099 wearing a “Thin Blue Line” patch on their uniform, our office has determined that this complaint is admissible pursuant to Division 3 of the *Police Act* and directed the Chief Constable of the VPD to process this complaint pursuant to Division 3 of the *Police Act*. As such, the alleged conduct will be subject of a *Police Act* investigation and you will receive separate notification of that.

Furthermore, after a review of your complaint submission, the Commissioner has determined pursuant to section 95(2) of the *Police Act* that it is in the public interest to release some limited information relating to investigations under the act.

With respect to the photo on social media of VPD member #3390 wearing an “Israeli flag patch”, there is an ongoing *Police Act* investigation into this alleged conduct. Our office will provide your photograph of the member on November 19, 2023, to the investigating officer to assess in their existing investigation.

I also acknowledge that you have raised concerns with compliance among members with the VPD’s existing policies that prohibit wearing unauthorized patches on uniforms.

Consequentially, the OPCC has forwarded a related Service and Policy complaint to the Vancouver Police Board regarding the adequacy of the VPD's policies.

Both the disciplinary misconduct investigations and the Service and Policy complaint will be conducted under the oversight of the OPCC.

Sincerely,



Cameron Loveless  
Executive Director, Oversight Operations