



# Abbotsford Police Department

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**Bob Rich**  
Chief Constable

*"Protecting with Pride"*

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE # 2012 -

RELEASE # 3

DATE OF RELEASE: March 16, 2012

### **Incident: Update: Abbotsford Police Officer Dismissed**

**Abbotsford:** Earlier today, at the conclusion of a Police Act discipline proceeding, Abbotsford Police Constable Nathan Brown was ordered dismissed after an investigation into his actions and subsequent account of what happened on the evening of April 14<sup>th</sup> 2011.

It was alleged that Cst. Brown, now a five year member of the APD, misled superiors about a crash he had with an unmarked police vehicle he was authorized to drive home from work. Cst. Brown was suspended with pay during the investigation which examined whether he had driven while impaired by alcohol and then lied to his supervisors to cover up a crash he had on the way home. Although a determination of whether he was impaired could not be made, Cst. Brown was found to have committed discreditable conduct for his actions that night and deceit for statements about when the damage to his police vehicle occurred.

"Cst. Brown was a good police officer who handled himself poorly after making a bad decision to drive a car after drinking", said Chief Constable Bob Rich. "But police officers are held to a high standard and this investigation determined he did not meet that standard."

The Abbotsford Police Professional Standards Section conducted the Police Act investigation under the direction of Chief Rich. Chief Constable Dave Jones of the NWPS was appointed as an independent Discipline Authority to hold the discipline proceeding once that investigation was complete.

Cst. Brown can contest this finding by requesting a public hearing. If he chooses to do so, the Police Complaint Commissioner will either order a public hearing or a hearing based on the record of the discipline proceeding. Cst. Brown still faces a criminal charge of obstruction of justice in relation to this incident.

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To make Abbotsford the safest city in B.C.*

**Release #2: October 17, 2011.**

On Thursday, October 13, 2011, the Abbotsford Police Department forwarded a Report to Crown Counsel concerning Constable Nathan Brown in relation to an off duty incident that resulted in damage to a police vehicle. Crown Counsel approved the charge of Obstruction against Brown based on the discrepancies that existed between the facts of the event and the initial explanation provided by the officer.

The Police Act investigation into the matter is continuing. Constable Brown remains suspended from duty.

**Release #3: April 29<sup>th</sup> 2012**

On the evening of April 14<sup>th</sup>, an off duty member of the APD got involved in an incident and is now the subject of an investigation into whether he drove a vehicle while impaired by alcohol. The member had authorization in this instance to drive an unmarked police vehicle home from work. He stopped on the way home at a facility run by the Police Union for use by its members. The officer collided with a pole and caused moderate damage to the police vehicle while driving home. One aspect of the investigation will focus on how forthcoming the member was when he reported the incident to the APD. The officer has worked for the Abbotsford Police Department for 4 ½ years.

The Abbotsford Police Department has suspended that officer indefinitely, effective today. The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner has been advised and a Police Act and criminal investigation is underway.

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