

Mission, Vision and Values

MISSION:

To effectively, independently and objectively investigate incidents involving Alberta's police that have resulted in serious injury or death to any person as well as sensitive allegations of police misconduct

VISION:

To enhance public confidence and ensure accountability in the investigation of serious or sensitive incidents involving Alberta's police

VALUES:

Integrity, Independence, Investigative Excellence, Respect, Trust and Professionalism



Alberta's Serious Incident Response Team



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Solicitor General and Public Security

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ASIRT

About ASIRT

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) ensures excellence and independence in the investigation of matters referred by the Director of Law Enforcement.

ASIRT has jurisdiction over all sworn police officers in the Province of Alberta. Their mandate is to investigate incidents or complaints involving serious injury or death of any person, and matters of a serious or sensitive nature, that may have resulted from the actions of a police officer.

ASIRT is governed by Section 46.1 of the Police Act and therefore do not take complaints from the public. Complaints should be directed to the agency in question.



The Process

Once an investigation has been completed, the ASIRT Executive Director reviews the results of the investigations to ensure completeness and fairness. The Executive Director can forward any file to Alberta Justice for their opinion. The executive Director will decide if any charges will result from an investigation.

Why ASIRT

Prior to the formation of ASIRT, an incident where a person was seriously injured or where death was a result of police actions, the police service in question had routinely conducted the investigation. This resulted in a perception that the police were policing themselves and a perception that an objective investigation could not result. In addition, the manpower to conduct these investigations took resources away from the police agency resulting in fewer officers to investigate other incidents.

ASIRT provides independent and objective investigations to enhance public confidence in policing and to ensure accountability on the part of Policing Agencies in Alberta. Since ASIRT operates outside current policing infrastructure, the drain on police resources to conduct these types of files is minimal.

ASIRT's Staff

ASIRT is led by a civilian Executive Director who is a lawyer and Crown Prosecutor. Reporting to him are:

- A civilian assistant director
- Two civilian criminal intelligence analysts
- Four Civilian Investigators
- Ten sworn police officers (from the Calgary Police Service, Edmonton Police Service, and the RCMP)
- Contract civilian investigators located throughout the province



The Executive Director may also engage public overseers from the community to ensure independence in the investigative process.

