

From: [Joe Smyth](#)
To: [Jason Sheppard](#)
Subject: Message
Date: Monday, April 13, 2015 10:04:08 AM

Sipt,

I was going to send this to the Chief, but perhaps there is no point or isn't appropriate. Maybe if it comes up in management meetings and if you agree with it, you could volunteer or make the suggestion.

All the best, chat late.

J

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I'm sorry to be writing you this message, but there are a couple of issues I cannot get off of my mind. Specifically as it relates to how we can perhaps be responding to the confusion and questions that not only exist in the community, but that are now proliferating as a result of social media. I of course also recognize the fact that I have undoubtedly lent to the continuation of the issue, and maybe even perhaps added to the frenzy following the email I sent of friday.

Firstly, thank you for your unwavering support, it has meant more than you know to Lisa and I. Your efforts on Friday likely kept my name out of the media; which have allowed some security for my family... Even though we fully recognize that its temporary.

As for our (the RNC) response, do you think that the right person, in the right media setting could quell some of the confusion and questions that exist in both the community and the media? There are several questions and misunderstandings, that albeit reasonable, are very rudimentary for us to address and explain. For example:

1. Why was the officer responding to a twitter comment that was clearly not a threat? We have very fundamental explanations for this that are founded in sound investigative reasoning. The most basic of explanations could satisfy the vast majority of reasonable critics. We do this because history has taught us to be proactive, and identify the signs of troubled individuals who have potential to carry out acts of targeted violence. We usually cannot quantify our successes in protective policing, because when its done right, nothing is happening. I wish nothing more than to have been able to refer any number of services to Mr Dunphy, and let him be a simple file that was never read or looked at again. But we unquestionably have a mandate to follow up on disconcerting behavior as part of a threat assessment, in the hopes we prevent instances such as those in Ottawa and the Quebec premiers debate shooting.

2. Why did the officer attend the residence alone? Again, a simple and reasonable question from our community. The broad answer is of course easy within itself - the Police go to dangerous situations all the time alone. However, in this case, we have even more reasoning. For me, I do not want to bring a Uniform - the ultimate symbol of government and authority - to the home of a man that is clearly disenfranchised with both; since my goal is to develop a rapport with him to complete a thorough risk assessment. I also had the luxury of doing a cursory risk assessment on him; the fact that it was wrong is irrelevant. The fact of the matter is, police respond to unknown situations everyday, and they are often alone. Hence, why we complete exhaustive training.

Again, sorry to be bothering you with this. I realize also that it may not be in the best interest of the organization for you to be the face of this spiraling issue. I have had some discussion with Supt Sheppard last week on some of this and he may be a suggestion if at any point you decide to have somebody speak in depth to the media. He has heard my perspective in length... Likely exhaustive lenght.

I will try and let this go as best I can now.

Thanks
Joey

J