

Dear Mr. Cacchione,

I am working on a story for the Nova Scotia Advocate about the allegations made by Tony Smith on the Sheldon McLeod show.

I have the following questions:

1 - What was Mr. Smith's role in the investigation?

Mr. Smith's was appointed by Interim Director Pat Curran as a Community Observer. He was to provide observations and recommendations about the investigation only, not the director's report.

2 - Mr. Smith calls the investigation unfair. Can you respond?

It is Mr. Smith's right to disagree with my findings, which were made as a result of a complete review of all the evidence gathered during the investigation.

3 - Mr. Smith believes the investigators did not have access to all video recordings in the possession of Walmart. Is this correct?

That is incorrect. The only video SiRT did not have was the video that did not exist - the cctv camera looking down the toy aisle was a non-functional surveillance camera meant only to deter.

4 - Mr. SMith also states that the statements referenced in the report were collected by HRP rather than SIRT. Is that correct?

Under the provisions of the regulations pertaining to SiRT, subject officers are not required to give a statement or provide their notes or their reports to SiRT. Despite this provision, Subject Officer 1 provided a written statement and Subject Officer 2 provided his report, notes, and photographs of his injuries.

5 - In the interview Mr, Smith states that "there was something that would suggest somebody may be a racist and that lead was not followed up." Can you comment on that?

The complaint about the officer being a racist was dealt with internally by the Professional Standards department of the HRP. It had no bearing on the SiRT investigation.

Much appreciated!

Robert DeVet