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PUBLIC STATEMENT

ADAM NOBODY RESPONDS TO S.I.U. DECISION TO LAY CHARGES

December 21, 2010

On December 21, 2010, the Special Investigations Unit announced that an officer with the Toronto Police Service has been charged with assault with a weapon in connection with the arrest of Adam Nobody during the Queen's Park G20 protest. The SIU further stated that none of the twelve witness officers who were in the vicinity of Mr. Nobody's arrest were "able to positively identify themselves as being depicted in the videos, nor could they identify the other involved officers."

After hearing that the Special Investigations Unit decided to charge one officer Adam Nobody commented: **"I am relieved that at least one of the officers involved in my arrest will face justice. It is now time for the justice system to do its work, and I won't be commenting further on this charge. What I still don't understand is how twelve police officers who were around me when I was arrested aren't able to identify anyone. I hope that something can still be done about this."**

Trial lawyer Julian Falconer, who acts for Mr. Nobody, commented on the need for the remaining officers to be identified. **"Twelve professionally trained police witnesses who saw and heard nothing. This is simply pathetic. Yet again this is a sad example of witness officers scuttling an S.I.U. investigation to help out other officers. The legal duty of witness officers to co-operate has become a farce. This does not bode well for police accountability in this City. I hope that Chief Blair will use all means at his disposal to live up to his legal responsibility to help the S.I.U. to identify any other police officers involved in using force against Mr. Nobody. Public confidence in our police service demands that the Chief act."**

Co-counsel for Mr. Nobody, Sunil Mathai, reacted to the charge: **"My client and I are encouraged by the fact that at least one officer will be held to account for what happened to him. This case demonstrates why it is so important for all of us to demand good policing. Without members of the public having the courage to come forward in the way that they did, there would have been no prospect for Mr. Nobody to achieve any form of justice. We hope that Chief Blair shows the same courage in working with the S.I.U. to identify all the officers involved."**

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