

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INFORMATION ON INCIDENT REVIEW

Introduction

This review focused on the circumstances surrounding the wrongful release of an offender from the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility (CNSCF) on November 7, 2014.

Considerations

The review considered the following:

- The events leading up to the wrongful release
- The actions of offenders
- The actions taken in response to the incident
- Whether all applicable policies and procedures were followed
- If appropriate policies and procedures are in place

Issue

On November 7, 2014 an offender was wrongfully released from custody.

Facts

One offender impersonated another who was scheduled to be released.

It was determined that correctional staff did not

- enforce the requirement for offenders to wear their identification wristbands
- check photographs to confirm the offender's identity at discharge
- check signatures to confirm the offender's identity at discharge

Findings

Two offenders conspired to enable one offender to be released from the CNSCF in place of the other.

Correctional officers at the appropriate points in the discharge process did not verify the offender's identity prior to release.

Notification and other post incident procedures were completed in compliance with policy and procedures.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

Corrective action will be taken with all staff involved.

Criminal Code charges are pending against two offenders.