

Vancouver, British Columbia  
August 9, 2017

**PRESS RELEASE**

In announcing that the RCMP had agreed, on July 21, 2017, to resolve a civil suit commenced by Mrs. Mumtaz Ladha against the RCMP on February 22, 2015, (B.C. Supreme Court File No. S-151457), for negligent investigation and defamation related to criminal charges announced by it on May 16, 2011, Mr. David J. Martin, Martin + Associates, Vancouver, said:

*“The RCMP’s press conference announcing criminal charges against Mrs. Ladha pre-judged the case and excoriated her, an individual whom the judiciary, after a 23 day trial, ultimately found was completely innocent. Mrs. Ladha hopes that her lawsuit against the RCMP and the RCMP’s acceptance of the need to compensate her and to provide an unqualified apology to both her and her family for their improper conduct will send the message that it is unacceptable for the police, when announcing criminal charges, to make comments about the evidence said to support the charges thereby acting as both investigators and judges.”*

In response to the settlement Mrs. Ladha said:

*“I look to forward resuming my normal life with my reputation, and that of my family, fully restored.*

*The BC Supreme Court’s emphatic November 22, 2013 judgment finding that I was completely innocent of all charges and now the RCMP’s unqualified apology for the improper narrative they spread when announcing charges against me concludes this terrible saga. I only hope that something like this never happens to anyone else, ever again.”*

Continuing, Mr. Martin said:

*“Our Canadian Criminal Code attempts to protect the presumption of innocence and the fair trial rights of all Canadians by prohibiting the publication of alleged evidence at bail hearings, at preliminary inquiries and during trial hearings regarding the admissibility of evidence. It is inconsistent with the purpose of these long standing, protective provisions to permit the police to make elaborate and one-sided comments about the alleged evidence when announcing that criminal charges have been laid. Hopefully this civil suit and its result will give the RCMP and other police services pause before ever doing something like this again.”*

The RCMP’s August 7, 2017 letter of apology is attached hereto as Exhibit A. For further comment Mr. Martin may be reached at 604-682-4200.



Royal Canadian  
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale  
du Canada

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"E" Division

Ressources humaines  
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August 7, 2017

Mumtaz Ladha  
c/o Martin+Associates  
863 Hamilton Street  
Vancouver, BC V6B 2R7

Dear Mrs. Ladha:

**Re: Lada v Attorney General of Canada**

I write this letter to confirm that your civil action against the Attorney General of Canada (British Columbia Supreme Court file no. S-151457) has been resolved by way of a compensation agreement.

As you know, your civil claim arose out of a criminal investigation conducted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police that ultimately led to criminal charges against you under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. Those charges were dismissed in their entirety by Madam Justice Fenlon on November 22, 2013, following a 23-day trial in British Columbia Supreme Court.

In the course of the criminal investigation, certain public statements were made by the RCMP that the Force now recognizes were improper. On behalf of the RCMP, I would like to unreservedly apologize to you and your family for those statements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S Sullivan", written over a circular stamp or watermark.

Superintendent Sean Sullivan  
Employee & Management Relations Officer  
Employee & Management Relations Section  
RCMP, "E" Division