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Officer charged with racing

OPP constable taken off road

BY SARAH DEETH
Examiner Police Writer

A Peterborough County OPP officer has been charged with two counts of racing a vehicle while on duty in a police cruiser. Const. Lloyd Tapp, 43, was charged April 8 after an investigation into a March 25 incident. Tapp is charged with driving at

least 50 km/h over the speed limit on Highway 115 in Cavan Monaghan Township, court records state.

Const. Gord Klingspohn, media relations officer for Peterborough County OPP, said the public wasn't told about the charges because of the time lapse between March 25 and April 8.

"Due to the fact of the time lapse between the date of the offence and the actual date of the charge, a press release was not issued," Klingspohn said.

He said he couldn't get into specific details about the charges because the case is before the courts.

"It was relating to the on-duty operation of a police cruiser on March 25," Klingspohn said.

Tapp was charged by the OPP central region traffic and marine unit, he said.

The OPP cruiser wasn't impounded for seven days, he said.

"Roadside impoundment is only applicable if the charge is laid at the roadside," Klingspohn said.

EXAMINER EXCLUSIVE

He said he wasn't sure if Tapp's driver's licence was suspended for seven days, again citing the lapse in time between the alleged incident and the day charges were laid.

Under Ontario's new street racing laws, drivers face having their vehicles seized and the driver's licence suspended for seven days for speeding at more than 50 km/h over the speed limit.

Tapp has been moved to administrative duties at the detachment,

Klingspohn said.

Insp. Mike Johnston, detachment commander of the Peterborough County OPP, was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Tapp made an appearance in Provincial Offences Court yesterday dressed in his OPP uniform, provincial prosecutor Alan Staples said.

His next court appearance is June 9.

If convicted, Tapp faces a minimum fine of \$2,000 and a possible jail sentence of six months.

sdeeth@peterboroughexaminer.com