



EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE



REPORT TO THE EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION

DATE: 2012 January 25

SUBJECT: Request for Reward Extension

RECOMMENDATION(S):

This report will provide information and present recommendations for action by the EPC in regards to:

- a) a reward in the amount of up to \$25,000.00 for information leading to the apprehension and return to Canada of Christopher David MEER, responsible for conspiracy to commit extortion and arson, be approved for a further three (3) year period, to January 2015.

INTRODUCTION:

This report will provide information and present recommendations for action by the EPC in regards to:

- a) a monetary reward being requested for a further three year term in the matter of an investigation involving extortion and arsons in and around the City of Edmonton during 2007. This request is for an extension of the reward, originally approved in 2009, in a series of crimes that terrorized numerous families and justice officials.

BACKGROUND:

This investigation began in January, 2007 and five people were identified as being responsible for a series of arsons and extortions. The person who was found to be responsible for planning the conspiracy, Jonathan David MEER, was sentenced last year to a term in federal prison of fifteen (15) years. Three other members of the conspiracy also received federal sentences, one of which is currently under appeal. The fifth accused, Christopher David MEER, who according to trial testimony was directly responsible for setting all three of the fires, fled Canada before he could be arrested and may be in the United States or Mexico. The property damage in the Edmonton area caused by these people was estimated at over \$2,000,000.00.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

The United States Marshalls Service, as well as other agencies (including the producers of the U.S. television show "America's Most Wanted") remain in contact with the investigators. However, Christopher David MEER has yet to be located. There is every reason to suggest Christopher David MEER will not return to face these charges on his own and will be in hiding until captured. The series of crimes MEER was involved in resulted in millions of dollars damage and genuine fear for the lives of those threatened. To date, investigative expenses have exceeded \$400,000.00.

CONCLUSION:

The reward offering has produced substantial media interest on past occasions. It is anticipated that by continuing to offer the reward, public interest may result in information which will result in the arrest of Christopher David MEER and his return to Canada.

Written by: Reg. #1580 Detective Rob PATON 
Staff Sergeant Howard KUNCE

Reviewed By: *Supt. Bob Haston* *Rec'd 12 Jan 26*
i/c Robbery Section 

Approved by: Acting Deputy Chief Ken MACKAY, Specialized Community Support Bureau *Request for renewal supported. Pass through C.C to etc.*

A/ Chief of Police: 

Date: 02 FEBRUARY 2012