Peterborough Police Service Board

Policy
Witness Protection and Security
2026-LE-042

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1.0 Authority

1.1 Subsection 37(1) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1,* ("CSPA") provides that a Board shall provide adequate and effective policing in the in the area for which it has policing responsibility as required by section 10 of the CSPA;

1.2 Subsection 38 (2) of the CSPA provides that a Police Service Board may establish policies respecting matters related to the police service or the provision of policing;

1.3 Subsection 6 (1) 4 vii of O. Reg. 392/23: Adequate and Effective Policing (General) prescribes that a Chief of Police shall establish procedures and processes with respect to witness protection and security;

1.4 The Board has deemed it appropriate and consistent with the principles set out in section 1 of the CSPA, with its objectives and priorities determined pursuant to sections 37 and 38 of the CSPA that it has a policy on witness protection and security;

NOW THEREFORE THE PETERBOROUGH POLICE SERVICE BOARD APPROVES AND ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING:

2.0 Definitions

In this Policy:

2.1 **"Act" or "CSPA"** means the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1,* as amended;

2.2 **"Board"** means the Peterborough Police Service Board;

2.3 **"Chief"** means the Chief of the Peterborough Police Service;

2.4 **"Member"** means a member of the Peterborough Police Service;

2.5 **"Service"** means the Peterborough Police Service.

3.0 Board Policy

3.1 The Board recognizes that issues relating to the protection and security of witnesses form an important part of policing and of the prosecution of criminal offences, and it is therefore the policy of this Board that witness protection and security issues be dealt with in a professional and thorough manner in accordance with procedures established by the Chief as directed in this Policy.

4.0 Direction to the Chief

4.1 Witness Protection Liaison Officer

4.1.2 The Chief shall appoint a Member, who as part of his or her duties, will act as a witness protection liaison officer.

4.2 Procedures for Security of Witnesses

4.2.1 The Chief shall develop and implement written procedures and processes in respect of the protection and security of witnesses.

4.3 Procedures for Witness Assistance

4.3.1 The Chief shall establish procedures and processes in respect of witness assistance.

4.4 Training

4.4.1 The Chief shall ensure that Members are trained on the provisions of the *Witness Protection Act* and are kept informed of changes in the law relating to witness protection.

4.5 The Chief shall establish written procedures relative to witness protection issues in accordance with subsection 6 (1) 4 vii of O. Reg. 392/23: Adequate and Effective Policing (General).

5.0 Report to the Board

5.1 The Chief shall report to the Board on the Service implementation of this Policy as follows:

5.1.1 In response to questions from the Board regarding Service procedures developed pursuant to the policy, either verbally at a meeting when the question is asked, or in writing at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, as directed by the Board; and

5.1.2 Within thirty days of the Chief becoming aware of a breach of Service procedures developed pursuant to this policy that the Chief in his sole discretion determines to be a significant breach that is likely to result in liability for or reputational damage to the Board or the Service, the Chief shall:

a) report to the Board verbally regarding the matter at its next regularly scheduled meeting;

b) provide periodic verbal updates as directed by the Board at subsequent meetings pending completion of internal and external proceedings regarding the matter; and

c) after the conclusion of all internal and external proceedings regarding the matter, provide a written report to the Board explaining:

i) the breach;

ii) the circumstances surrounding the breach;

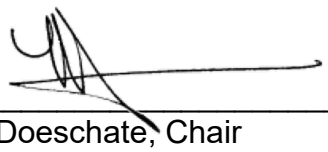
iii) the Chief's liability or reputational concerns; and

iv) the corrective measures taken, including amendments to the procedure to guard against future breaches.

6.0 Implementation

6.1 That the Board approves and adopts this Policy #2026-LE-042 Witness Protection and Security which shall come into force on October 21, 2026.

6.2 That Policy #LE-018 Witness Protection, enacted on October 20, 2014, is hereby repealed effective October 21, 2026.



Mary ten Doeschate, Chair
Peterborough Police Service Board

October 20, 2026
Date



Lisa Wilson, Executive Assistant
Peterborough Police Service Board

October 20, 2026
Date