



STRATFORD POLICE SERVICE

BOARD POLICY

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Expires: Indefinite

Rescinds: LE-034-2000 Sexual Assault Investigation

LE-034SPSB Sexual Assault Investigation

The following standards for effective policing respecting assistance to victims of crime are prescribed:

- I. Victims of crime shall be offered assistance, as soon as possible; and
- II. Victims of crime shall be provided with referrals to, as appropriate in the circumstances, emergency services, health care professionals, victim support agencies, social service agencies and other appropriate governmental, non-governmental or community organizations.

It is the policy of the Stratford Police Service Board (the Board) that members will adhere to the principles of the *Victims' Bill of Rights, 1995* and the *Canadian Victims Bill of Rights*.

It is the policy of the Board with respect to sexual assault investigations that the Chief of Police will:

- a) Develop and maintain written procedures that:
 - I. Require that investigations be undertaken in accordance with the Police Service's Criminal Investigation Management & Procedures;
 - II. Require compliance with *Ontario Regulation 392/93 - Major Case Management and Software Requirements*;
 - III. Address communications and dispatch, initial response and investigations relating to sexual assaults; and
 - IV. Address community notification.
- b) Where possible, work with hospitals and agencies such as the Emily Murphy Centre and Optimism Place which provide services to victims of sexual assault, including Sexual Assault Treatment Centres, Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Centres and Victim Services Huron Perth, as well as the local Crown, to ensure a coordinated and effective response to victims of sexual assaults; and

- c) Ensure that the investigators have received the prescribed training as outlined in section 34 of *Ontario Regulation 87/24 - Training* or have the competence and experience to conduct the investigation.

"Steve Cousins"

Chair

Approved January 15, 2025

Date