



STRATFORD POLICE SERVICE

BOARD POLICY

Issued: December 18, 2000
Revised: January 15, 2025
Expires: Indefinite
Rescinds: LE-024-2000 Domestic Violence Occurrences

LE-024SPSB Intimate Partner Violence Incidents

- a) 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.
- b) The Chief of Police will ensure that the principles of the *Victims' Bill of Rights, 1995* and the *Canadian Victims Bill of Rights* are adhered to;
- c) It is the policy of the Stratford Police Service Board with respect to Intimate Partner Violence occurrences that the Chief of Police will:
 - I. In partnership with the Police Service's local Crown, Probation and Parole Services, Victim/Witness Assistance Programme (VWAP), Victim Services Huron Perth, Huron-Perth Children's Aid Society, and other local service providers and community representatives responsible for issues related to Intimate Partner Violence, including women's shelters, work to establish and maintain one or more Intimate Partner Violence review committees that cover the geographic areas that fall within the jurisdiction of the Police Service;
 - II. Ensure that Intimate Partner Violence investigations are conducted in compliance with *Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA)* and its *Regulations* on investigations;
 - III. Ensure that the Intimate Partner Violence 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;

- IV. If the police service has a team primarily responsible for conducting investigations into Familial or Intimate Partner Violence, the Chief of Police shall ensure at least one member of the team has completed the training as outlined in section 15 of *Ontario Regulation 395/23 - Investigations* or have the competence and experience to conduct the investigation;
- V. Develop and maintain written procedures for undertaking and managing investigations into Intimate Partner Violence occurrences that address:
- communications and dispatch;
 - initial response;
 - enhanced investigative procedures;
 - the mandatory laying of charges where there are reasonable grounds to do so, including in cases where there is a breach of a bail condition, probation, parole, or a restraining order;
 - the use of a risk indicators tool;
 - children at risk;
 - high-risk cases and repeat offenders;
 - occurrences involving members of a police service;
 - post-arrest procedures;
 - victim assistance; and
 - safety planning.
- VI. Ensure that the Police Service's response to Intimate Partner Violence occurrences are monitored and evaluated; and
- VII. Ensure that front-line officers and other appropriate members receive any training prescribed by the Minister.

"Steve Cousins"

Chair

Approved January 15, 2025

Date