



STRATFORD POLICE SERVICE

BOARD POLICY

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Revised: January 15, 2025
Expires: Indefinite
Rescinds: VA-001-2000 Victims' Assistance

VA-001SPSB Victim's Assistance

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

- a) Victims of crime shall be offered assistance, as soon as possible; and
- b) 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 with respect to providing assistance to victims that the Chief of Police will:

- a) Working in partnership with the Victim/Witness Assistance Program (VWAP), Victim Services Huron Perth, Municipalities, community, social service agencies, and other local organizations, promote the development of an integrated service delivery framework for providing assistance to victims, including safety planning;
- b) Establish and maintain written procedures on providing assistance to victims that reflect the principles of the Victims' Bill of Rights, 1995 and the Canadian Victims Bill of Rights;
- c) Establish and maintain written procedure that outline the responsibilities of members of the police service in providing assistance to victims;
- d) Ensure that members of the Police Service are aware of victim service providers or a victim referral service available in the area; and

- e) Ensure that in each instance where there is a police service contact with one or more victims of crime involving physical or psychological injury, that such victims are referred to the appropriate community service provider in the area.

"Steve Cousins"

Chair

Approved January 15, 2025

Date