

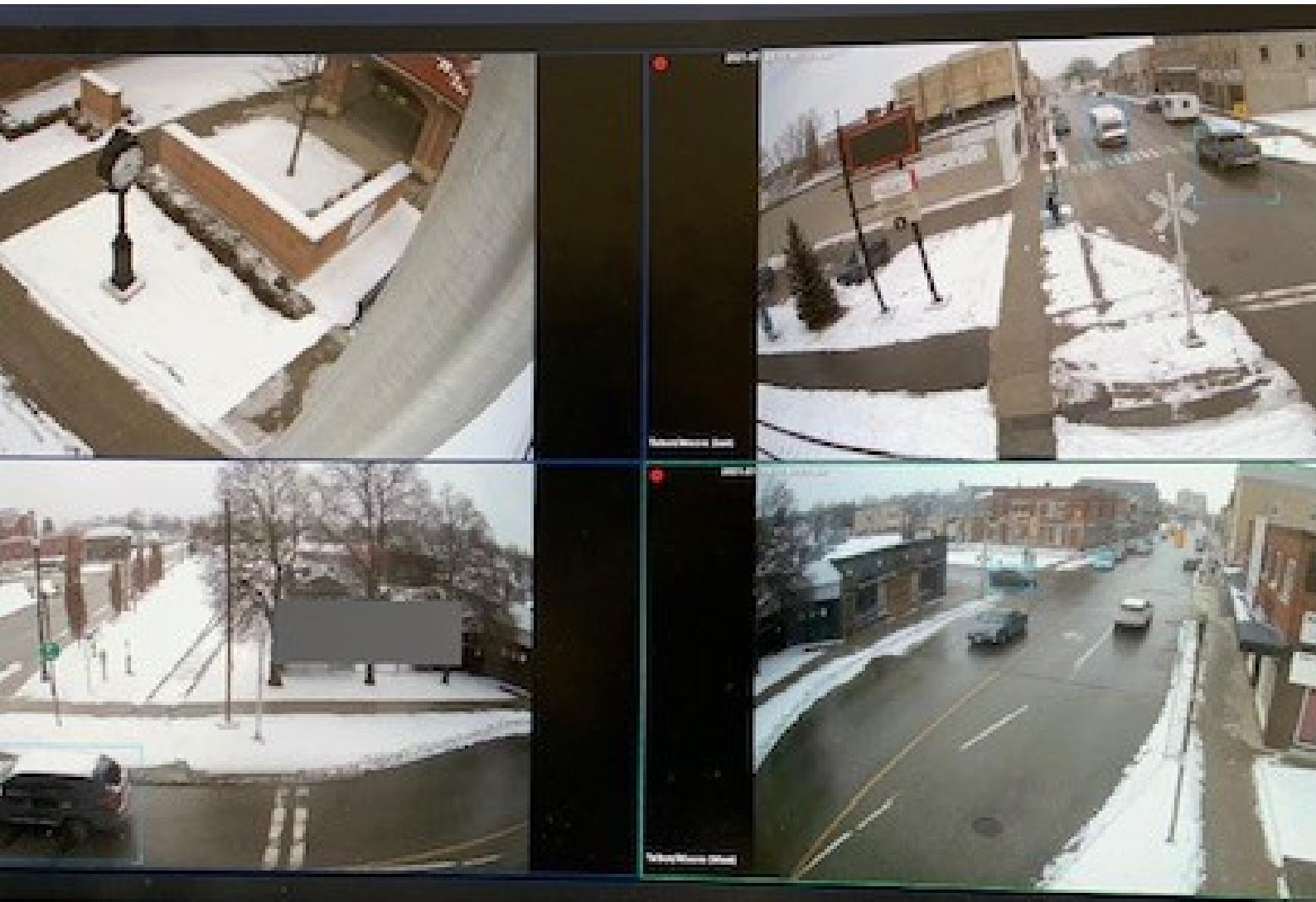


ST THOMAS  
POLICE SERVICE

January 2026

# 2025 ST. THOMAS CCTV ANNUAL REPORT

For the 12-month period January 1 to December 31, 2025



Closed-Circuit Television

# Overview

**The St. Thomas Police Service, the Corporation of the City of St. Thomas and the Downtown Development Board (DDB) have partnered to implement the CCTV Program in downtown core. The CCTV Program officially launched in January of 2021 with the installation of cameras in 8 locations downtown. In 2022, 2 cameras were added to the program. One additional downtown at Talbot Street and Princess Avenue, and one in a northeast commercial area at Burwell Road & Edward Street. In 2025, 2 new cameras were added to the program. One on Talbot Street and First Avenue and the second on White Street and Centre Street.**

**The St. Thomas Police Service is committed to the improvement of community safety, crime prevention, and the desirability of the city as a place for shopping, business and leisure. The CCTV system was implemented to aid in promoting a safer and secured environment in the City of St. Thomas.**

**The CCTV Program is a proactive, local solution that is in its fourth year, which continues to enhance community well-being and assist the St. Thomas Police Service with solving crimes. The St. Thomas Police continue to deploy a number of initiatives like bike patrols, foot patrols, focus patrols, endorsing the Citizens on Patrol program (COPS), Citizen Camera Registry programs, and working closely with the St. Thomas DDB to ensure a safe downtown environment.**

**In recent years, the integration of CCTV cameras and the deployment of special constables have proven instrumental in bolstering safety in the downtown core. Together, these measures create a robust security framework that deters crime, enhances public safety, and fosters community trust.**

**As we move forward, the use of CCTV cameras supports successful downtown revitalization strategies to ensure that there is a safe and positive environment for visitors, residents and business/property owners. The installation of video cameras is one of the ways the St. Thomas Police Service are able to enhance the safety of our downtown areas and maintain a thriving and vibrant core. These cameras will help ensure the safety of residents and visitors, deter unsafe activities, and contribute to revitalization.**





# Definitions

**Designated member** - a supervisor holding the rank of Sergeant or above. The St Thomas Police presently have 13 designated members who are authorized to review CCTV if required for investigative purposes.

**Security**– Standalone system which is encrypted and not accessible by members or other outside sources unless on site and within the secure CCTV designated monitoring room.

**IPC** - Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario -The IPC acts independently of government to protect and promote access to information and privacy rights in Ontario.



The map identifies the locations of the twelve (12) CCTV cameras.

## Video Recording Retentions

In accordance with IPC standards, the retention period of recorded video is 72 hours. Anything outside of this timeline is automatically deleted and overwritten.

## Logged Reviews

**The server maintains access logs for 90 days. This timeline is built into the CCTV system and is not able to be changed. Quarterly audits are performed to ensure compliance with the regulations. In addition, the logbook entries are compared to the server logs to ensure accuracy and ensure authorized access.**

## IPC Policy Compliance

**Within the operational period of 2025, 33-logged searches for investigations were made by designated members. There have been no reported breaches of policy nor any notable issues with any of the logged queries subject to review. The CCTV program is on a standalone computer in a designated office, which requires users to have a single access point. At the inception of this project, private areas were identified within the video vantage points and permanently blocked out to the viewer. This includes any apartment building windows, private residences or patios of establishments. All of which was done in accordance with IPC standards and recommendations. To date, there have been no complaints received regarding the use or operation of downtown CCTV within St Thomas.**

# Notable Successes

In 2025 Designated Members accessed the CCTV program for 33 Incidents.

The investigation types varied and consisted of: assaults, arsons, break and enters, impaired driving, mischiefs, motor vehicle collisions, and thefts.

Of the 33 incidents, 14 were captured on CCTV. There were 19 incidents that occurred out of range of the cameras. Officers were able to utilize the footage in 14 of those investigations, which led to 11 charges being laid.

## Conclusion

It is without dispute that the CCTV program within St Thomas is beneficial. The implementation and use of the CCTV program has assisted in modernizing the downtown core of St Thomas while instilling a sense of security and safety for citizens. This project continues to be a benefit and will only increase in its usefulness and value over time. The St Thomas Police Service members have fully embraced and support this program, which has also contributed in success. The CCTV has proven extremely valuable in evidentiary value when offences have been captured on video and a suspect identified.

STPS continually assesses the resources available in the community. CCTV is considered for review of any incidents that occur in the area of the 12 cameras.

