



St. Thomas Police Service

BOARD POLICY

Subject:	Adequate and Effective Policing
Policy Number:	AI-017
Effective Date:	April 1, 2024
Reviewed:	April 22, 2026
Authorized:	Police Services Board

Authority / Legislative References

- *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1*
- *Ontario Regulation 392/23 Adequate and Effective Policing*

Policy Statement

The St. Thomas Police Service Board (the “Board”) is committed to maintaining a high standard of excellence in the policing services provided by the St. Thomas Police Service (the “Service”). By establishing and maintaining robust processes and mechanisms for adherence, regular review and continuous improvement, we aim to enhance policing outcomes and promote a safer community. Our dedication includes ensuring full compliance with all provisions of Ontario Regulation 392/23 Adequate and Effective Policing General (O. Reg. 392/23), with a focus on promoting accountability, strengthening public confidence, and delivering exceptional policing services to meet the needs of our community.

Policy Application

1. The Chief of Police (the “Chief”) shall ensure that the Service complies with all provisions set out in O. Reg. 392/23, and will establish, communicate and operate with procedures in the areas prescribed below. These procedures shall be reviewed and updated consistently to ensure they are effective and efficient, reflect best practices and integrate improvements where it is determined changes are required.
 - a. crime prevention, including community-based crime prevention initiatives that seek to address the root causes of crime and involve stakeholders, consistent with the Strategic Plan and the policing needs of the community (see CP-001 Crime Prevention Policy for more information).
 - b. law enforcement, including:
 - i. community patrol that addresses when and where directed patrol is considered necessary or appropriate, based on the policing needs of the community (see LE-001 Community Patrol Policy for more information);

- ii. traffic direction and enforcement, including traffic patrol (see LE-017 Traffic Management, Enforcement, and Road Safety Policy for more information);
- iii. situations when more than one police officer must respond to an occurrence or call for service (see LE-008 Multiple Officer Response Policy for more information);
- iv. internal task forces (see LE-010 Internal Task Forces Policy for more information);
- v. joint forces operations (see LE-009 Joint Forces Operations Policy for more information);
- vi. undercover operations (see LE-021 Undercover Operations Policy for more information);
- vii. criminal intelligence, addressing the collection, use, disclosure, retention, disposal, correction and dissemination of and access to, criminal intelligence information, as well as related audit procedures (see LE-004 Criminal Intelligence Policy for more information);
- viii. crime, call for service and public disorder analysis (see LE-003 Crime, Call and Public Disorder Analysis Policy for more information);
- ix. informants and agents (see LE-015 Paid Informants and Agents Policy for more information);
- x. witness protection and security (see LE-018 Witness Protection Policy for more information);
- xi. police response to persons who are in crisis, regardless of whether those persons appear to have a mental illness or neurodevelopmental disability (see LE-013 Police Response to Persons in Crisis Policy for more information);
- xii. search of person (see LE-012 Search of Persons Policy for more information);
- xiii. search of premises (see LE-011 Search of Premises Policy for more information);
- xiv. arrest (see LE-005 Arrest Policy for more information);
- xv. bail and violent crime (see LE-023 Bail and Violent Crime Policy for more information);
- xvi. detainee care and control (see LE-016 Detainee Care and Control Policy for more information);
- xvii. detainee transportation (see LE-033 Detainee Transportation Policy for more information);
- xviii. property and evidence control (see LE-020 Collection, Preservation and Control of Evidence and Property Policy for more information); and

- xix. the provision of law enforcement in respect of all navigable bodies and courses of water within the Service's area of responsibility (see ER-009 Underwater Search and Recovery Policy for more information).
- c. maintaining the public peace, including:
 - i. functions, responsibilities and reporting relationships of a public order unit and its members, including in relation to the role of a public order commander and, if any, to a police liaison team (see PO-001 Public Order Unit Policy for more information);
 - ii. the deployment of a public order unit for planned and unplanned public order incidents, and debriefing following deployment, including preparation of a summary and analysis of the outcome and recommendations for improvement (see PO-001 Public Order Unit Policy for more information);
 - iii. police action in respect of labour disputes (see PO-002 Police Action at Labour Disputes Policy for more information);
 - iv. police action in respect of protests, demonstrations and occupations (see PO-003 Police Action in Respect of Protests, Demonstrations, and Occupations Policy for more information).
 - d. emergency response, including:
 - i. the functions and deployment of any tactical unit, hostage rescue team, incident commander, crisis negotiator, and containment team (see ER-002 Tactical Unit Policy, ER-003 Hostage Rescue Team Support Policy, ER-004 Major Incident Command Policy, and ER-005 Crisis Negotiation Policy for more information);
 - ii. preliminary perimeter control and containment (see ER-001 Preliminary Perimeter Control and Containment Policy for more information);
 - iii. extreme incidents that are consistent with the Extreme Incident Response Plan (see ER-008 Extreme Incident Response Plan Policy for more information);
 - iv. the functions and provisions of any mental health and addictions crisis team (see LE-013 Police Response to Persons in Crisis Policy for more information);
 - v. explosive forced entry and explosive disposal (see ER-006 Explosives Policy for more information);
 - vi. responses to a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive incident (see ER-006 Explosives Policy for more information);
 - vii. emergency ground search, rescue and recovery (see ER-007 Ground Search for Lost and Missing Persons Policy for more information);

- viii. emergency waterways search, rescue and recovery, including underwater search and recovery (see ER-009 Underwater Search and Recovery Policy and Waterways Policing Policy for more information);
 - ix. canine units (see ER-010 Canine Unit Policy for more information).
- e. providing assistance to victims of crime, the Chief's procedures must reflect the principles of the Victims Bill of Rights 1995 and Canadian Victims Bill of Rights, including:
- i. 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; and
 - ii. responsibilities of members of the Service in providing assistance to victims (see VA-001 Victims' Assistance Policy for more information).
- f. additional policing functions, including:
- i. communications and dispatch services (see LE-002 Communications and Dispatch Policy for more information); and
 - ii. supervision (see LE-015 Supervision Policy for more information).
2. The Chief shall ensure members of the Service, or people performing a policing function under the direction of a member, are capable of performing the functions assigned to them.
 3. The Chief shall ensure the equipment and other resources provided to members of the Service for the purpose of providing a policing function shall include at least the equipment and resources set out in Schedule 1 of O. Reg. 392/23.
 4. The Chief shall prepare an emergency plan for the Service setting out the roles and responsibilities of the Service during an emergency and the procedures to be followed during an emergency. In developing the emergency plan, the Chief shall consult with the City of St. Thomas and any other applicable emergency service providers.
 5. The Chief shall develop an operational plan for the following incidents:
 - a. an incident that requires multiple members of the Service to provide emergency response or maintain the public peace policing functions outside of the Service's area of policing responsibility; and
 - b. the provision of policing functions by the Service in relation to the incident is anticipated to continuously last, or has already continuously lasted, longer than the duration of a normal shift for the involved members of the Service.
 6. The Chief shall ensure that policing functions are provided to an extent and in a manner that is reasonable, having regard to the following factors:

- a. the policing needs of the community;
 - b. the geographic and socio-demographic characteristics of the police service's area of policing responsibility;
 - c. the extent to and manner in which the policing function is effectively provided in similar communities in Ontario;
 - d. the extent to which past provision of the policing function by the police service has been effective in addressing the policing needs of the community; and
 - e. best practices respecting the policing function.
7. The operational plan shall have regard to the collective agreements with members, and address, without limitations, breaks and meals for members of the Service who are deployed in relation to the incident.
 8. The Chief shall comply with the requirements in the operational plan.
 9. The Chief and Board shall implement a quality assurance process relating to the provision of adequate and effective policing and compliance with the Act and its regulations.
 10. The Chief shall ensure members have the necessary training, knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the duties required by the Act and its regulations.

Reporting

11. The Chief shall provide the Board with an annual report on crime analysis, call analysis and public disorder analysis data, and of information on crime trends, and shall ensure that the report is published on the internet.
12. In accordance with the Missing Persons Act, 2018, the Chief shall ensure an annual report on missing persons is provided to the Board before April 1 each year that includes:
 - a. the total number of urgent demands made in the previous calendar year and the number of missing persons investigations to which they related; and
 - b. a description of the types of records specified in the urgent demands for records made in that year.