



St. Thomas Police Service

BOARD POLICY

Subject:	Crisis Negotiation
Policy Number:	ER-005
Effective Date:	April 1, 2024
Reviewed:	April 22, 2026
Authorized:	Police Services Board

AUTHORITY/LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE

- *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1*
- *Ontario Regulation 392/23 – Adequate and Effective Policing (General)*
- *Ontario Regulation 87/24 – Training*

POLICY STATEMENT

The St. Thomas Police Services Board (the “Board”) is committed to providing effective crisis negotiation services to support the safe resolution of high-risk incidents. The Chief of Police (the “Chief”) will establish clear procedures for deployment, coordination, and training to maintain readiness and operational effectiveness in handling crisis situations.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the St. Thomas Police Service (the “Service”) has access to specialized crisis negotiation services through its own qualified members and through agreements or other arrangements with one or more police services capable of providing those services on a 24-hour basis within a reasonable response time.

POLICY APPLICATION

1. It is the policy of the Board with respect to crisis negotiation that:
 - a. the Service will provide the services of a crisis negotiator using its own qualified members where practical;
 - b. the Board will ensure that the Service has access to crisis negotiation services through agreements or other arrangements with one or more police services capable of providing those services on a 24-hour basis within a reasonable response time;
 - c. the Chief will, in consultation with any assisting police service where applicable, establish procedures that set out the circumstances in which crisis negotiation services will be deployed, including the steps for obtaining the service and the reporting relationships during the incident; and

- d. the Chief shall ensure that all equipment listed under “crisis negotiators” in Schedule 1 – Required Equipment and Other Resources of Ontario Regulation 392/23 – Adequate and Effective Policing (General) is available to every crisis negotiator.