



St. Thomas Police Service

BOARD POLICY

LE-013

Subject:	Response to Persons in Crisis
Policy Number:	LE – 013
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 is committed to ensuring that members of the St. Thomas Police Service respond to individuals experiencing a crisis, mental illness, or developmental disability in a compassionate, lawful, and effective manner.

The Board recognizes that individuals experiencing mental health crises present unique circumstances requiring specialized training, collaboration with community partners, and adherence to legislative requirements.

POLICY APPLICATION

It is the policy of the Board with respect to police response to persons in crisis or persons experiencing mental illness or developmental disability that the Chief of Police shall:

- a. work collaboratively with appropriate community partners including health care providers, the Canadian Mental Health Association, hospitals, municipal partners, and other justice system agencies to address service issues relating to persons experiencing mental health crises;
- b. establish procedures governing police response to persons experiencing mental health crises, including collaboration with specialized response teams;
- c. ensure members receive training and information regarding:
 - local crisis response protocols
 - conflict resolution strategies
 - appropriate use of force considerations in crisis situations.