



St. Thomas Police Service

BOARD POLICY

Subject:	Public Order Unit
Policy Number:	PO - 001
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*
- *Ontario Regulation 398/23 – Alternative Provision of Policing Functions*
- *Criminal Code of Canada*

POLICY STATEMENT

The St. Thomas Police Services Board is committed to ensuring the maintenance of public order and the protection of public safety during events involving large gatherings, demonstrations, unlawful assemblies or riot situations.

The Board recognizes that the provision of public order policing requires specialized training, resources and coordinated planning. The Board therefore ensures that the St. Thomas Police Service has access to public order unit capabilities through formal agreements with partner police services.

POLICY APPLICATION

It is the policy of the Board with respect to public order policing that:

1. the Board shall maintain agreements with other police services or policing partners to ensure the availability of a public order unit within a reasonable response time;
2. the Chief of Police shall establish procedures that:
 - a. set out the circumstances in which a public order unit may be deployed;
 - b. establish procedures for obtaining the services of a public order unit;
 - c. address the circumstances and processes for liaising with appropriate officials for the purposes of sections 63-68 of the Criminal Code respecting unlawful assemblies and riots;
 - d. outline procedures for operational debriefing following a public order incident; and
 - e. ensure that equipment required for public order units under Ontario Regulation 392/23 is available to members performing those functions.