



St. Thomas Police Service

BOARD POLICY

Subject:	Victims Assistance
Policy Number:	VA - 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*
- *Criminal Code of Canada*
- *Victims' Bill of Rights, 1995*

POLICY STATEMENT

The St. Thomas Police Services Board is committed to ensuring compassionate and effective support for victims of crime.

The Board directs the Chief of Police to establish procedures that ensure victims of crime are treated with dignity and respect, receive timely information regarding police processes and available supports, and are referred to appropriate victim assistance services within the community.

POLICY APPLICATION

It is the policy of the Board with respect to providing assistance to victims that the Chief of Police shall:

1. in collaboration with the Victim/Witness Assistance Program, Victim Services Elgin and other community and social service agencies, promote the development of an integrated service delivery framework for providing assistance to victims, including safety planning;
2. ensure that all members of the St. Thomas Police Service are aware of victim service providers or victim referral services available in the community; and
3. establish procedures respecting the provision of assistance and support to victims of crime.