



CHILD PORNOGRAPHY and INTERNET CHILD EXPLOITATION LE-036

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Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Service Board that the requirements set out in this document shall form part of the Board Policies and the Chief of Police is directed to establish procedures and processes relating to the undertaking and managing of investigations into child pornography, child luring and internet child exploitation, in accordance with Section 20 of O. Reg. 395/23: Investigations, made under Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019.

1. Policy Requirements

It is the policy of the Board that with respect to the undertaking and managing of investigations into child pornography and Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) that the Chief of Police will:

- (a) Develop and maintain procedures on and processes for undertaking and managing investigations into child pornography ;
- (b) Develop and maintain procedures that require investigations be undertaken in accordance with the police service's criminal investigation management plan;
- (c) Ensure complete compliance with legislative and constitutional requirements, and recognized legal principles;
- (d) Ensure members act with full respect for human dignity and according to professional standards of skill, integrity and accountability;
- (e) Ensure that both officer and public safety as a priority;
- (f) Ensure that members involved in investigations into child pornography have the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform this function;
- (g) Ensure members are provided with the necessary training, tools and equipment to perform this function;
- (h) Ensure support is provided to manage the psychological well-being of members to acknowledge risks associated with long-term effects from exposure to Internet child exploitation investigation-related activities;
- (i) Ensure the resources required for child pornography investigations are within budgetary requirements;
- (j) Maintain relationships with other police agencies, Criminal Justice agencies, Boards of Education, social agencies and the community in dealing with the issues relating to child pornography;
- (k) Regularly review procedures on investigations into child pornography to remain current with case law, inquests, inquiry findings, and amendments to related legislation;

- (l) Notify the Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet (Provincial Strategy) in all cases of suspected child pornography (Internet child exploitation); and
- (m) Conduct ongoing statistical analysis, qualitative and quantitative review of all child pornography investigations to ensure the integrity of investigative practices and procedures and compliance with this policy, police services directives, and legislative requirements.

2. ViCLAS Reports

- (a) Within 30 days of the start of an investigation into child pornography and child internet exploitation, the investigating officer leading the investigation shall complete and submit one or more ViCLAS Crime Analysis Reports respecting the investigation to the Provincial ViCLAS Centre.
- (b) Within 30 days of a material change or of acquiring information that is significant to an investigation into child pornography and child internet exploitation, the investigating officer leading the investigation shall update the ViCLAS Crime Analysis Report and resubmit it to the Provincial ViCLAS Centre
- (c) An investigating officer who receives a Potential Linkage Report respecting an investigation from the Provincial ViCLAS Centre shall,
 - Follow up the potential linkage with the investigation as soon as possible; and
 - Within 60 days of receiving the Potential Linkage Report, submit to the Provincial ViCLAS Centre a Potential Linkage Response Form reporting the results of the follow up.

3. Reporting

On an annual basis, the Chief of Police will report to the Board the number of occurrences and/or cases, provide statistical comparisons, trend analysis, effectiveness of existing protocols, community partnerships, training, and education with respect to investigations of child pornography and internet child exploitation cases.

As part of a separate Annual Report on Adequacy Regulation, the Chief of Police will report on compliance with this section of the policy.

The Chief of Police will also report on an exception basis. This applies to those circumstances where an investigation into child pornography has resulted in an “exceptional” circumstance, or a circumstance, which may be detrimental to the police service; and/or has significant issues of potential liability to the Board and the police service.

4. Authority/Legislative Reference

Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 ss. 38(1)(g) and 38(2)
O. Reg. 395/23: Investigations, ss. 15, 18, 20 and 24
Board Minute #191/00
Board Minutes #60/15
Board Minute #IC35-11-18

5. Linkage to Appropriate Police Service Procedure/Directive

I-B-723(F) Child Pornography Investigations