



# DOMESTIC/FAMILY VIOLENCE OCCURRENCES

## LE-024

Effective Date: 2000/09/15

Amended: 2013/09/27

Amended: 2018/11/23

Amended: 2025/03/14

### Policy Statement

*It is the policy of the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Service Board that the policy requirements set out in this document shall form part of the Board Policies and the Chief of Police is directed to implement procedures and processes relating to the undertaking and managing of investigations into domestic/family violence occurrences.*

## 1. Policy Requirements

It is the policy of the Board with respect to the undertaking and managing of investigations into domestic violence occurrences, the Chief of Police will:

- (a) Ensure complete compliance with legislative and constitutional requirements, and recognized legal principles;
- (b) Ensure that members act with full respect for human dignity and according to professional standards of skill, integrity and accountability;
- (c) Maintain both officer and public safety as a priority;
- (d) Ensure that members involved in investigations into domestic violence occurrences have the knowledge, skills, appropriate Ministry accredited training and abilities to perform this function;
- (e) Ensure that procedures for undertaking and managing investigations into domestic violence occurrences that address:
  - i) communications and dispatch
  - ii) initial response
  - iii) enhanced investigative procedures
  - iv) the mandatory laying of charges where there are reasonable grounds to do so, including in cases where there is a breach of bail condition, probation, parole or a restraining order
  - v) the use of a risk indicators tool
  - vi) children at risk
  - vii) high risk cases and repeat offenders
  - viii) occurrences involving members of a police service
  - ix) post-arrest procedures
  - x) victim assistance
  - xi) safety planning
- (f) Maintain positive relationships with other police agencies, family and criminal justice agencies, community and social agencies and organizations dealing with issues relating to domestic violence; and
- (g) Regularly review procedures relating to domestic violence occurrences to remain current with case law, inquests, inquiry findings, and amendments to related legislation.

- (h) Conduct an ongoing statistical analysis, qualitative and quantitative review of all domestic violence occurrence investigations to ensure the integrity of investigative practices and procedures

## **2. ViCLAS Reporting**

If the investigation is with respect to domestic violence falling within the scope of s. 271 to 273 of the Criminal Code, then the following reporting is required:

- (a) Within 30 days of the start of an investigation into a domestic violence investigation, 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 domestic violence, 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,
  - i. Follow up the potential linkage with the investigation as soon as possible; and
  - ii. 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**

The Chief of Police will report annually on the number of domestic and family violence occurrences, and provide statistical comparisons, trend analysis, effectiveness of existing protocols, community partnerships, training and education.

The Chief of Police shall also report on those circumstances where an investigation into a domestic violence occurrence 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.

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

## **4. Authority/Legislative Reference**

*Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 ss. 38(1)(g) and 38(2)*

Ontario Regulation 395/23: Investigations, ss. 18 and 24

Board Minute #191/00

Board Minute #63/13

Board Minute #IC35-11-18

## **5. Linkage to Appropriate Police Service Procedure/Directive**

I-B-713(F)