



## PUBLIC ORDER UNITS

### PO-001

Effective Date: 2000/09/15

Reviewed: 2013/09/27

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#### 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 hereby directed to comply with these requirements in his/her administration and operation of the Peel Regional Police.*

#### 1. Subject

The guiding principles under which procedures and processes relating to public order unit services are to be established.

#### 2. Policy Requirements

The Board directs that this section of the policy and any police service directive and/or procedure relating to public order unit services be based on the following principles:

- (a) That the role of the police at any public demonstration, protest or public safety incident is to preserve the peace, prevent offences and enforce the law including offences against persons and property, in accordance with powers and direction available to the Chief of Police under the law;
- (b) That it is in complete compliance with legislative and constitutional requirements, and recognized legal principles;
- (c) That members act with full respect for human dignity and according to professional standards of skill, integrity and accountability;
- (d) That it maintains both officer and public safety as a priority;
- (e) That the police service provide its own public order unit service;
- (f) That the Public Order Unit consist of at least 32 police officers, including a section leader, and a public order commander, and must be deployed in a reasonable time;
- (g) That there is 24 hour police response to all incidents requiring the services of a public order unit;
- (h) That it ensures members involved with the Public Order Unit have the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform this function;
- (i) That consideration of police actions at an occupation or protest involving members of one of the Region's diverse communities include preserving the peace, communication, negotiation, building trust and fostering understanding with participating and affected communities keeping in mind the uniqueness of policing occupations and protests involving members of these diverse communities;
- (j) That it ensures members are provided with the necessary tools and equipment to perform this function;

(k) That it ensures the Chief of Police establish written procedures respecting:

- i. The functions, responsibilities and reporting relationships of the Public Order Unit and its members, including in relation to the role of a public order commander and, if any, to a police liaison team;
- ii. The deployment of a public order unit for planned and unplanned public incidents;
- iii. Debriefing a public order incident within the police service, following the deployment of a public order unit;
- iv. Police action in respect of labour disputes; and
- v. Police action in respect of protests, demonstrations and occupations.

(l) That it ensures the police services' procedures on public order unit services are contained in a manual that is available to all members of the unit; and

(m) That the Chief of Police regularly reviews procedures relating to public order unit services to remain current with case law, inquests, inquiry findings, and amendments to related legislation.

### **3. Measurement Methods/Systems**

The Chief of Police shall conduct ongoing statistical analysis, qualitative and quantitative review of public order unit services as may be required to:

- (a) Ensure the integrity of the police service directive and/or procedure; and
- (b) Collect information with respect to the number of incidents involving the public order unit services.

### **4. Reporting**

The Chief of Police shall report on those circumstances where the use of the Public Order Unit 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 shall report on compliance with this section of the policy.

### **5. Authority/Legislative Reference**

*Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, ss. 38(1)(g) and 38(2)*  
O. Reg. 392/23: Adequate and Effective Policing (General), ss. 7, 8 and 24(1) 2.  
Board Minute #191/00  
Board Minute #63/13  
January 29, 2017

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

Peel Regional Police Public Order Unit Subsidiary Manual  
IB-137(F)