



# HATE/BIAS MOTIVATED CRIME

## LE-007

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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 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 the Chief of Police is to establish procedures and processes relating to the undertaking and managing of investigations into hate/bias motivated crime.

### 2. Specific Definitions

#### **“hate/bias crime”**

Means a criminal occurrence committed against a person or property which is motivated, solely or in part, by the offender’s hate/bias or prejudice based on race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, or any similar factor;

#### **“hate/bias incidents”**

Involve behaviours that, through motivated by bias against a victim’s race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, are not criminal acts. *(For example, disrespectful/discriminatory or hostile speech)*

### 3. Policy Requirements

It is the policy of the Board with respect to the undertaking and managing of investigations into hate/bias motivated crime the Chief of Police shall:

- (a) Ensure complete compliance with legislative and constitutional requirements, and recognized legal principles;
- (b) Ensure members act with full respect for human dignity and according to professional standards of skill, integrity and accountability;
- (c) Undertake to educate the members on hate/bias motivated crimes;
- (d) Maintain both officer and public safety as a priority;
- (e) Develop and maintain procedures and processes for undertaking and managing investigations into hate/bias motivated crime;
- (f) Ensure members involved in investigations into hate/bias motivated crime have the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform this function;
- (g) Maintain liaisons with other law enforcement agencies, government agencies, Boards of Education, social agencies, the community, and the media, to inform them of the police service’s procedures for investigating, countering and responding to hate/bias motivated crime, and the activities of organized hate groups;

- (h) Regularly review procedures on investigations into hate/bias motivated crime to remain current with case law, inquests, inquiry findings, and amendments to related legislation;
- (i) Maintain a respectful and co-operative relationship with all communities that recognize their racial, cultural and linguistic diversity, thereby fostering the kind of community support that is essential to effective, secure policing;
- (j) Assume a leadership role in organizing support, when necessary, of the broader community for the victim(s) and their community that have been the subject of a hate/bias motivated crime;
- (k) Actively engage in the prevention of hate crimes through: the development of protocols with recognized stakeholders; the dissemination of information; the creation of a resource centre; and through educational initiatives in keeping with the role of the police service;
- (l) Recognize the emotional impact of such crimes on individuals and communities and react appropriately in investigating such crimes, including providing assistance in the handling, seizure and/or disposal of offending materials; and
- (m) Keep victims of hate crimes and concerned community groups informed of specific investigations as is appropriate under each set of circumstances.

#### **4. Measurement Methods**

The Chief of Police shall conduct ongoing statistical analysis, qualitative and quantitative review of all investigations into hate/bias motivated crime to ensure the integrity of investigative practices and procedures.

#### **5. Reporting**

The Chief of Police shall inform the Board on an immediate basis of any unusual activity or increase in hate crimes within the Region, especially as instigated by organized groups, so the Board may take the appropriate action.

The Chief of Police shall provide annually a statistical report to the Board on the incidence of hate/bias motivated crime, such a report to be made publicly available upon receipt by the Board.

As part of the Strategic Planning process, the Chief of Police shall review annually the existing allocation of resources to prevent and investigate hate crimes, and comment specifically on the need to create a dedicated unit to prevent or investigate such crimes.

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

#### **6. Authority/Legislative Reference**

Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 ss. 38(1)(g) and 38(2)  
 O. Reg. 395/23: Investigations, ss. 15 and 24  
 Board Minute #191/00  
 Board Minute #69/11  
 Board Minute #18/14  
 Board Minute #61/14

**Supersedes:** Race Relations – Investigation of Hate Propaganda & Hate/Bias  
Motivated Crimes Policy – Adopted 1994/12/19 (*Pages II-AA-1-II-AA-3*)

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

I-B-130(F) Hate/Bias Motivated Crime