



Sarnia Police Services Board Policy

Issue Number: SPS-BP-AI-009

Subject: Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms	Effective Date:
Replaces: September 14, 2023	Distribution: All Members
Last Reviewed: September 2024	Expiration Date: Indefinite
Approved By: Board Chair	Signature: <i>Paul Wiersma</i>

A Legislative/Regulatory Requirements

Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1, provides that a Board shall provide adequate and effective policing in the area for which it has policing responsibility as required by **Section 10** of the **CSPA**.

Subsection 38 (2) of the **CSPA** provides that a Police Service Board may establish policies respecting matters related to the Police Service or the provision of policing.

O. Reg. 392/23: Adequacy and Effective Policing (General) prescribes standards for adequacy and effectiveness of police services.

O. Reg. 391/23: Use of Force and Weapons prescribes requirements for firearms training.

Section 117 of the Firearms Act provides the legislative authority for the regulations made under the Firearms Act. These regulations set out stringent requirements relating to the safe storage and transfer of firearms for both individual owners and public agents, including police officers.

Section 3 (1) of the Public Agents Firearms Regulations requires that a public agent shall store firearms when not in use in a container, receptacle, vault, safe or room that is kept securely locked and that is constructed so that it cannot easily be broken open or into.

The ***Occupational Health and Safety Act*** defines the responsibilities of employers, supervisors and workers with respect to the use of equipment related to the workplace.

B Policy Statement

1. The Sarnia Police Service Board recognizes the importance of the safe storage of police service firearms, and it is therefore the policy of this Board that such storage of firearms be established and maintained in accordance with the ***Community Safety and Policing Act*** and the procedures established by the Chief as directed in this Bylaw.

C Board Policy

1. It is the policy of the Sarnia Police Services Board with respect to the safe storage of police service firearms that the Chief of Police will:
 - (a) Establish procedures that are consistent with the requirements of the ***Firearms Act*** and the ***Public Agents Firearms Regulations***;
 - (b) Ensure that Members receive the appropriate training in relation to firearms safety as required by **Section 117** of the ***Firearms Act***, **Section 3(1)** of the ***Public Agents Firearms Regulations*** and that Members have the requisite knowledge, skills and abilities to perform this function.
2. The Chief shall make a written report to the Board immediately following any incidents involving the discharge of a firearm:
 - (a) When a member of the police service, accidentally discharges a firearm during the ordinary firearm maintenance in accordance with the rules of the police service;
 - (b) There has been property damage;
 - (c) There has been a personal injury or death;
 - (d) The procedures with respect to firearms safety were not followed; and
 - (e) In any other circumstance where, in the opinion of the Chief, there is significant issue or potential liability to the Board or the Service.
3. The Chief of Police will provide information in the annual report with respect to the safe storage of police service firearms.