



Sarnia Police Services Board Policy

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Approved By: Board Chair	Signature: <i>Paul Wiersma</i>

A Legislative Authority

Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1, ("CSPA") 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**.

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.

Subsection 39 (1) of the **CSPA** requires the Board's Strategic Plan include quantitative and qualitative performance objectives and indicators of outcomes relating to police assistance to victims of crime and re-victimization rates.

Subsection 1. 4 of the **CSPA** provides for the importance of respect for victims of crime and understanding of their needs.

Subsection 82 (1) (c) of the **CSPA** provides that police officers have a duty to assist victims of crime.

Subsection 11 (1) 5 of the **CSPA** provides that adequate and effective policing includes providing assistance to victims of crime.

Subsection 13 (1) and (2) of O. Reg. 392/23: Adequacy and Effective Policing (General) prescribes standards for adequate and effective policing respecting assistance to victims of crime.

The ***Victims' Bill of Rights, 1995*** sets out the role and responsibilities of members providing victims' assistance.

B Policy Statement

1. The Sarnia Police Service Board recognizes that issues relating to victims' assistance form an important part of policing, and it is therefore the policy of this Board that victims' assistance issues be dealt with in a professional and thorough manner, and in accordance with procedures established by the Chief of Police.

C Board Policy

1. It is the policy of the Sarnia Police Services Board with respect to providing assistance to victims that the Chief of Police shall:
 - (a) Working in partnership with the Ministry of the Attorney General's Victim/Witness Assistance Program (V/WAP) and agencies that deliver the Victim Crisis and Referral Service (VCARS) program, where available, municipalities, community and social service agencies and other local organizations, promote the development of an integrated service delivery framework for providing assistance to victims, including safety planning;
 - (b) Ensure that members of the police service are aware of victim service providers or a victim referral service available in the area;
 - (c) Establish written procedures on providing assistance to victims in accordance with the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan developed by the Sarnia Police Service in accordance with **Part XVI** of the **CSPA**; and
 - (d) Ensure that in each instance where there is police service contact with one or more victims of crime involving physical and/or psychological injury, that such victims are referred to the appropriate community service available in their area;
 - (e) Ensure that members are aware of the provisions of the ***Victims Bill of Rights, 1995***, and are kept informed of changes in the law relating to victims' assistance.
2. The Chief shall make a written report to the Board on or before August 30th of each year in respect of victims' assistance. The report shall include:
 - (a) A summary of the written procedures concerning victims' assistance;
 - (b) Quantitative and qualitative performance objectives and indicators of outcomes relating to police assistance to victims of crime and re-victimization rates in

accordance with **subsection 39 (1) 3. vii** of the **CSPA**; and

- (c) The status of Service compliance with the said procedures.