



# Sarnia Police Services Board Policy

Issue Number:

**SPS-BP-ER-009**

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| <b>Subject:</b><br><b>Underwater Search and Rescue</b> | <b>Effective Date:</b><br><b>September 14, 2023</b> |
| <b>Replaces:</b><br><b>New</b>                         | <b>Distribution:</b><br><b>All Members</b>          |
| <b>Last Reviewed:</b><br><b>August 2023</b>            | <b>Expiration Date:</b><br><b>Indefinite</b>        |
| <b>Approved By:</b><br><b>Board Chair</b>              | <b>Signature:</b><br><i>Paul Wiersma</i>            |

## **A** Legislative/Regulatory Requirements

The *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)*, sets out the responsibilities of employers and workers relating to workplace safety.

The *OHSA Diving Operations Regulation 629/94* provides further specific definitions, and responsibilities that relate to all occupational diving operations.

The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) provides a *Competency Standard for Diving Operations CAN/CSA-Z275.4-02* and an *Occupational Safety Code for Diving Operations CAN/CSA-Z275.2-92*.

## **B** Board Policy

1. It is the policy of the Sarnia Police Service Board with respect to the services of an Underwater Search and Recovery Unit that:
  - (a) This Board will contract with the OPP West Region to provide the services of an Underwater Search and Recovery Unit, available twenty-four (24) hours a day, within a reasonable response time; and

- (b) The Chief of Police, in consultation with the OPP, will:
- (i) Establish procedures that set out the circumstances in which the Underwater Search and Recovery Unit will be deployed, including the process for obtaining the services and the reporting relationships;
  - (ii) Establish procedures for the deployment of other emergency response services, including receiving assistance from other agencies; and
  - (iii) Ensure that the Police Service's Major Incident Commander(s) receive training from the OPP in their responsibilities and the capabilities of the Underwater Search and Recovery Unit.