



KINGSTON POLICE SERVICE BOARD

Intimate Partner Violence Incidents Policy (LE-023)

Adopted: Oct. 1/26 (Res. 26-94)

Reviewed:

Revised:

Expires: Indefinite

Rescinds:

Legislation: Victims' Bill of Rights, 1995

O. Reg. 87/24: Training, 2019, s. 34.

O. Reg. 395/23: Investigations, 2019,
s. 15.

1. Policy Statement

The Kingston Police Service Board (the Board) is committed to addressing intimate partner violence through coordinated, victim-centred, risk-informed, and community-based responses. It is the policy of this Board to require the Chief of Police to establish and maintain procedures for intimate partner violence occurrences that support victim safety, timely assistance, appropriate referrals, risk assessment and management, investigative consistency, and compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

2. Board Policy

- a) The following standards for effective policing respecting assistance to survivors of the crime are prescribed:
 - I. Victims / survivors of the crime shall be offered assistance as soon as possible; and
 - II. Victims / survivors of the crime shall be provided with referrals to, as appropriate in the circumstances, emergency services, health care professionals, victim support agencies, social service agencies and other appropriate governmental, non-governmental or community organizations.
- b) The Chief of Police will ensure that procedures respecting intimate partner violence occurrences are consistent with the principles of the *Victims' Bill of Rights, 1995* and the *Canadian Victims Bill of Rights*;
- c) It is the policy of the Kingston Police Service Board with respect to Intimate Partner Violence occurrences that the Chief of Police will:

- I. Work to establish and maintain one or more Intimate Partner Violence review committees that cover the City of Kingston, in partnership with the Police Service's local Crown, Probation and Parole Services, Victim/Witness Assistance Programme (VWAP), Victim Services of Kingston and Frontenac, Family and Child Services of Frontenac, Lennox, and Addington, women's shelters, and other service providers and community representatives responsible for issues related to Intimate Partner Violence;
- II. In developing procedures and processes addressing victim assistance, consult with and establish partnerships with the City of Kingston and community organizations, with the goal of ensuring that victims/survivors of domestic violence and intimate partner violence have access to supports and resources to reduce immediate and future harms;
- III. Ensure that Intimate Partner Violence investigations are conducted in compliance with *Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA)* and its applicable regulations governing institutions;
- IV. Ensure that the Intimate Partner Violence investigators have received the prescribed training as outlined in section 34 of *Ontario Regulation 87/24 - Training* or otherwise meet any applicable equivalency, competence, or experience requirements permitted under that Regulation;
- V. If the police service has a team primarily responsible for conducting investigations into Familial or Intimate Partner Violence, the Chief of Police shall ensure that at least one member of the team has completed the training as outlined in section 15 of *Ontario Regulation 395/23 – Investigations*, or otherwise meets any applicable equivalency, exemption, competence, or experience requirements permitted under that Regulation;
- VI. Develop and maintain written procedures for undertaking and managing investigations into Intimate Partner Violence occurrences that address:
 - communications and dispatch;
 - initial response;
 - enhanced investigative procedures;
 - documentation and evidence preservation, including prior, repeated, or related occurrences where applicable;
 - the mandatory laying of charges where there are reasonable grounds to do so, including in cases where there is a breach of a bail condition, probation, parole, or a restraining order;
 - the use of a risk indicators tool;

- children at risk;
 - high-risk cases and repeat offenders;
 - occurrences involving members of a police service;
 - post-arrest procedures;
 - victim assistance;
 - safety planning; and
 - coordination with related Service procedures where applicable.
- VII. Ensure that the Police Service's response to Intimate Partner Violence occurrences is monitored and evaluated for compliance, consistency, and effectiveness; and
- VIII. Ensure that front-line officers and other appropriate members receive any training prescribed by the Minister.
- d) The Chief shall provide an annual written report to the Board, in a manner that protects personal information, victim privacy, investigative integrity, and operationally sensitive information, respecting the investigation of intimate partner/family violence occurrences. The report shall include:
- I. A summary of the written procedures concerning Intimate Partner/Family violence investigations, including changes since the date of the last report;
 - II. The status of Service compliance with the said procedures;
 - III. A summary of the training provided to members with respect to Intimate Partner/Family Violence;
 - IV. A summary of the steps taken by the Service to monitor and evaluate response to intimate Partner/Family Violence occurrences;
 - V. A summary of the issues dealt with by the Intimate Partner/Family Violence Review Committee; and
 - VI. Any identified systemic issues, resource pressures, training needs, or procedure gaps requiring Board awareness.

"original signed by Chair"
Chair

"original signed by Board Administrator"
Board Administrator