



MISSING PERSONS

LE-026

Effective Date: 2000/09/15

Amended: 2014/02/19

Reviewed: 2016/04/29

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Reviewed: 2019/03/26

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services 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 the establishing procedures and processes with respect to the undertaking and managing of investigations into missing persons.

1. Policy Requirements

It is the policy of the Board that with respect to the undertaking and managing investigations into missing persons the Chief of Police will:

- (a) ensure complete compliance with legislative and constitutional requirements, and recognized legal principles;
- (b) maintain officer and public safety as a priority;
- (c) ensure 24 hour police response to all missing persons investigations;
- (d) establish procedures to be followed for undertaking investigations into reports of missing persons, including situations involving children, teenagers and elder and vulnerable adults;
- (e) provide training through investigations and a succession of training programs, both formal and informal, to develop the knowledge and skills of members of this service, in order to vigorously investigate all missing persons;
- (f) ensure investigative follow-up on outstanding cases;
- (g) ensure that where circumstances indicate a strong possibility of foul play, officers comply with the procedures set out in the Ministry's designated *Ontario Major Case Management Manual*;
- (h) ensure an AMBER Alert activation is considered in all missing children investigations, and Major Case Management is implemented in all cases involving AMBER Alert activation;
- (i) regularly review procedures for missing persons investigations to remain current with case law inquests, inquiry findings and amendments to related legislation; and
- (j) conduct ongoing statistical analysis, qualitative and quantitative review of missing persons investigations to ensure compliance with Board policy and legislative requirements.

2. Reporting

The Chief of Police shall report on an exception basis. This applies to those circumstances where an investigation of missing person has resulted in an “exceptional” circumstance, or a circumstance which may be detrimental to the police service; and/or has significant issues of potential liability to the Board and/or the police service.

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

3. Authority/Legislative Reference

Ontario Regulation 03/99; Section 12(1)(l) and 29

Board Minute #191/00

Board Minute #18/14

Board Minute #IC03/17

Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services Inspection April 2016

Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services Inspection September 2018

4. Linkage to Appropriate Police Service Procedure/Directive

I-B-122(F) Missing Persons

I-B-713(F) Domestic/Family Disputes

I-B-161(F) Amber Alert System