



SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATION

LE-034

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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 his/her administration and operation of the Peel Regional Police.

1. Subject

The guiding principles under which the Chief of Police is to establish procedures and processes relating to the undertaking and managing of investigations into sexual assaults.

2. Specific Definitions

“sexual assault”

Means an assault which is committed in circumstances that violates the sexual integrity of the victim.

3. Policy Requirements

It is the policy of the Board with respect to the undertaking and managing of investigations into sexual assaults the Chief of Police shall:

- (a) Ensure complete compliance with legislative and constitutional requirements, and recognized legal principles;
- (b) Ensure that members act with full respect for human dignity and according to professional standards of skill, integrity and accountability;
- (c) Maintain both officer and public safety as a priority;
- (d) Ensure that members involved in investigations into sexual assaults have the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform this function;
- (e) Ensure sexual assault investigations are undertaken in accordance with the Peel Regional Police Criminal Investigation Management Plan;
- (f) Ensure complete compliance with the Ministry's designated *Ontario Major Case Management (MCM) Manual*;
- (g) Develop and maintain procedures that address:
 - (h) Communications and dispatch, initial response and investigations relating to sexual assaults;
 - (i) Community notification;
 - (j) Provisions for victim assistance;
- (k) Maintain relationships with other police agencies, Criminal Justice agencies, hospitals, Boards of Education, social agencies and the community, dealing with the issues relating to sexual assaults; and

- (l) Regularly review procedures on investigations into sexual assaults to remain current with case law, inquests, inquiry findings, and amendments to related legislation.

4. Measurement Methods/Systems

The Chief of Police shall conduct ongoing statistical analysis, qualitative and quantitative review of all sexual assault investigations to ensure the integrity of investigative practices and procedures.

5. Reporting

As part of the Annual Statistical Report of the police service, the Chief of Police shall report on the number of sexual assaults.

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

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

6. Authority/Legislative Reference

Ontario Regulation 03/99, Section 12(1)(r) and 29

Board Minute #191/00

Board Minute #56/07

Board Minute # 44 /14

7. Linkage to Appropriate Police Service Procedure/Directive

I-B-402(F) Forensic Identification Services

I-B-719(F) Sex Offence Investigations (Adult and Children)