

Dawn Cichocki

From: Holly Doty <oapsb@oapsb.ca>
Sent: January 21, 2023 11:55 AM
To: Lisa Darling; Holly Doty; Jennifer Williams
Subject: Response Request from all OAPSB Boards - Bail Reform (response requested no later than February 23, 2023)
Attachments: OAPSB Letter.pdf; Toronto Police Services Board Letter.pdf

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Bail Reform: Share Your Thoughts



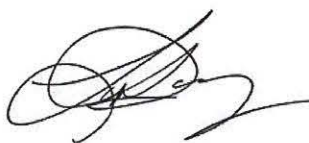
As most of you are aware, the 13 Premiers of the Provinces and Territories in Canada sent a letter to the Prime Minister requesting bail reform. We have included a news release, a letter sent from the OAPSB, and a letter sent from the Toronto Police Services for your awareness

(attached). As your association, we are asking you to please provide comment on the issue of bail reform. We have created a survey where you can indicate whether you support this request and provide any comments that you wish to make on this issue.

Due to the current discussions taking place, this request is **very time sensitive**. We are asking that you submit your comments to us **as soon as possible** to assist with our participation as your representative on this topic.

However, we understand that some people may need more time to provide us with your thoughts. We will leave the survey open until **February 23rd, 2023** for additional comments.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.



Lisa Darling
Executive Director





The Face and Voice of Police Governance in Ontario

Ontario Association of Police Services Boards
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London RPO Highland Ontario N6J 0A7

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Ontario
Association of
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Board

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June 7, 2022,

The Honourable David Lametti
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
6023 Monk Blvd. Montréal, Quebec
H4E 3H5

The Honourable Marco Mendicino
Minister of Public Safety
Confederation Building, Suite 203
House of Commons Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Lametti and Minister Mendicino:

RE: SUPPORT FOR REQUESTS BY TORONTO POLICE SERVICES BOARD RELATED TO FEDERAL BAIL REFORM

"The need for evidence-based bail reform"

Please accept this letter as formal endorsement by the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, for the legislative proposals for bail reform advanced to you by the Toronto Police Services Board on May 25, 2022.

The requested legislative changes communicated to you by Toronto Police Services Board Chair Jim Hart and Executive Director Ryan Teschner are both thoughtful and measured. The comprehensive report provided to them by Chief of Police, James Ramer, outlined the significant collaborative initiatives within the city designed to prevent gun violence through proactive interventions and improved investigative outcomes. It also acknowledged the small portion of the population where proactive and early intervention strategies have proven to be unsuccessful in deterring their engagement in violent gun crimes. It is in response to this high-risk segment of the population that the Toronto Police Services Board seeks changes to federal legislation that would;

- Require that Bail Hearings for the most serious firearm offences be heard by a judge of the Ontario Court or Superior Court, clearly conveying Parliament's view of the seriousness of these offences (and their impact on the public) as well as reflecting the views and concerns of the public about these incidents
- Add an additional route to First Degree Murder under Section 231 of the *Criminal Code*, by including death resulting from the discharge of a firearm in a congregate setting; this would act as a strong deterrent, clearly express society's disapprobation of such conduct and help

- maintain public confidence in the justice system; and
- Increase parole ineligibility to 2/3 of an individual's custodial sentence, for any offence where the court finds that the offender discharged a firearm in a congregate setting (including those who are found to be parties to such offences).

We recognize that the complexities of the issues impacting community safety and wellbeing require a collaborative multi-sector commitment to be successful. This is no exception. Emergency services, community services, health services, local councils, provincial governments and the federal government need to recognize the crucial role each plays in the collective effort to make each of our communities safe.

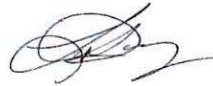
Toronto Police Services Board is asking for this reform, because the tools currently available to the police and their partner agencies have been in-effective at preventing tragic events within the city. We applaud the Toronto Police Services Board and the Toronto Police Service for their leadership on this issue. This issue is not isolated to the City of Toronto, it impacts all communities.

As the leading voice for police governance in Ontario, we encourage you to prioritize the Toronto Police Services Boards proposed legislated changes related to Federal Bail Reform.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Weaver'.

Patrick Weaver
Chair, OAPSB

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Darling'.

Lisa Darling
Executive Director, OAPSB

cc:

Deputy Minister Di Tommaso

Jamie McGarvey, President Association Municipalities Ontario (AMO)

Chief Nishan Duraipappah, President Ontario Association Chiefs of Police (OACP)

Jim Hart, Chair, Toronto Police Services Board

Ryan Teschner, Executive Director and Chief of Staff, Toronto Police Services Board

Bill Clancy, Executive Director, Durham Regional Police Services Board

Jennifer Malloy, Executive Director, Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG)

Board of Directors & Members Ontario Association of Police Service Boards (OAPSB)



Jim Hart

Chair

416.808.8080 | Jim.Hart@tpsb.ca

Ryan Teschner

Executive Director and Chief of Staff

416.808.8081 | Ryan.Teschner@tpsb.ca

October 18, 2022

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

The Honourable David Lametti
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Department of Justice Canada
284 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H8

Dear Minister Lametti:

I am writing as a follow-up to correspondence we sent to you and Minister Mendicino, Minister of Public Safety for Canada, in May of this year, regarding a number of bail reform proposals approved by the Toronto Police Services Board ("the Board"), and requesting your cooperation with respect to a number of related legislative proposals as outlined in the letter. We attach the original correspondence below.

As we noted in that letter, at its meeting of May 2, 2022, the Board approved a report from Toronto Chief of Police James Ramer entitled "Opportunities for Bail and Related Reforms to Enhance Community Safety." This comprehensive report provided the Board with a background of the current bail process, current and new Toronto Police Service ("the Service") initiatives to address gun violence, and provided information to raise the Board's awareness of opportunities to advance bail reform and other legislative change in an effort to enhance community safety in the City of Toronto – and, in fact, across Canada.

TORONTO POLICE SERVICES BOARD

40 College Street Toronto, Ontario M5G 2J3 | Phone: 416.808.8080 Fax: 416.808.8082 | www.tpsb.ca

As you know, we have received a response from Minister Mendicino, outlining a number of measures the Government of Canada is taking in relation to gun violence, and welcoming "continued collaboration and engagement with the municipalities, Provinces and Territories on how we can collectively work together to reduce gun violence in our communities, including tackling the root causes." The complete letter is attached for your information. Minister Mendicino's response also notes that your Ministry is seized with some of the legislative reform issues identified by the Board. As we have not yet received your response, we are following up on an issue that we are sure you agree is of significant importance and considerable urgency.

As you know, Toronto, along with cities and communities across Ontario and the country, continue to deal with a concerning number of incidents of gun and gang violence, often involving individuals who are out on bail when they commit these crimes. In addition, the number of recent incidents involving officers tragically killed in the line of duty is of tremendous concern, both to the policing community, and to communities generally. It is incumbent upon all of us to take all possible steps to reduce the gun violence we are currently seeing. This requires a proactive, immediate, comprehensive and collaborative approach.

We note that our proposals for legislative reform have received significant support from both the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP), and the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB). We attach each of these organization's letters of endorsement for you.

Chief Duraiappah, Chief of Police, Peel Regional Police and the President, OACP, stated that the OACP "supports the legislative proposals for bail reform advocated" by our Board. He further noted that "[a]s Ontario's police leaders, our members are committed to ensuring a fair and effective justice system. We are committed to working with our government and justice partners to address issues that impact the safety and well-being of all Ontarians, and we appreciate the important role played by government decision-makers at all levels in accomplishing this important goal."

Additionally, on behalf of the OAPSB, Patrick Weaver, Chair, and Lisa Darling, Executive Director, formally endorsed the legislative proposals for bail reform advanced to you by our Board, calling them "thoughtful and measured."

With the endorsement of both the OACP and OAPSB, our Board's proposals for bail reform have now received the support of Ontario's police chiefs and the organization representing all police services boards in Ontario.

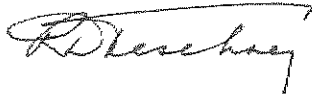
At this time, we are, once again, requesting that you review the three proposals for legislative reform contained in the report of Chief Ramer, appended to our original letter, and engage with us to explore the Government of Canada's ability to move these proposals forward. We are eager to hear from you as to what the next steps may be. We know that Chief Ramer, along with his Office, is also ready to assist in any way required to advance these proposals.

We look forward to collaborating with you with respect to these important initiatives, geared toward enhancing safety in our communities.

Sincerely,



Jim Hart
Chair



Ryan Teschner
Executive Director and Chief of Staff

cc: Chief Nishan Duraipppah, President, Ontario Association Chiefs of Police
Jeff McGuire, Executive Director, Ontario Association Chiefs of Police
Patrick Weaver, Chair, Ontario Association of Police Service Boards
Lisa Darling, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Police Service Boards
Jon Reid, President, Toronto Police Association
Andrew Cernowski, President, Toronto Police Senior Officers' Organization