



# NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

## Police Services Board Report

**PUBLIC AGENDA**

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**Subject:** Annual Report – Parental/Non-Parental Abductions and Attempts  
January 1 to December 31, 2022

**Report To:** Chair and Members, Niagara Police Services Board

**Report Date:** 2023-02-16

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### **Recommendation(s)**

**That the Niagara Police Services Board receive this report for information.**

### **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to advise the Board that the Service is in compliance with By-Law 295-2010 – Parental and Non-Parental Abductions and Attempts.
- The Chief is required to make an annual written report to the Board concerning parental and non-parental abductions and attempts.
- This report is submitted to provide the Board with the required information relating to the Service's written procedures and response to parental and non-parental abductions and attempts.

### **Financial Considerations**

There are no financial implications relating to the recommendations in this report.

### **Analysis**

In accordance with By-Law 295-2010, the Chief shall make a written report to the Board on or before August 30 of each year in respect to parental and non-parental abductions and attempts. The report shall include:

- a) A summary of the written procedures concerning investigations into parental and non-parental abductions and attempts;
- b) Confirmation that the procedures are in compliance with the Ministry's designated Ontario Major Case Management Manual;
- c) The status of Service compliance with the said procedures; and
- d) A summary of training given to Members regarding parental and non-parental abductions and attempts.

The following is a detailed response to each of the above-noted requirements:

- a) *“...a summary of the written procedures concerning investigations into parental and non-parental abductions and attempts...”*

General Order – 173.10 Parental and Non-Parental Abductions was prepared and approved to comply with the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation, Law Enforcement LE-040 – Parental and Non-Parental Abductions and Attempts, and the Ontario Major Case Management (OMCM) Manual. General Order 173.10 Parental and Non-Parental Abductions includes the Ontario Amber Alert Protocol.

In summary, it is the policy of the Service to investigate all instances of parental and non-parental abductions and attempts in accordance with General Orders: 095.10 Major Incidents and Routine Criminal Investigations; 076.13 Missing Persons; 084.08 Child Abuse and Neglect, including the protocol with Family and Children Services and to manage these investigations in accordance with the OMCM Manual.

- b) *“...confirmation that the procedures are in compliance with the Ministry’s designated Ontario Major Case Management Manual...”*

General Order 173.10 Parental and Non-Parental Abductions has been structured to comply with the legislated requirements of the regulations and to address the procedures contained in the OMCM Manual. A revised version of the OMCM Manual was released on December 1, 2017, and a subsequent review of Service procedures has confirmed compliance with the latest version of the manual.

The Service previously underwent a review of Adequacy Standards by the Ministry of Public Safety and Security and was found to be in compliance with the standards.

- c) *“...the status of Service compliance with the said procedures...”*

Violent Crime Analysts, under the direction of the Officer in Charge of the Special Victims Unit, monitor calls for service in order to ensure that all incidents involving non-parental abductions and attempts are investigated and managed in accordance with Service policy and the OMCM Manual. In addition, all reports are reviewed by a Staff Sergeant or Detective Sergeant in the District where the offence occurred and assigned to a Detective for investigation.

- d) *“...a summary of training given to Members regarding parental and non-parental abductions and attempts ...”*

An extensive range of specialized training is required and provided to investigators engaged in the investigation of parental and non-parental abductions and attempts.

In 2022, 22 members received the OMCM Course, and 22 members received the Criminal Investigators Training (CIT) Course. Both the OMCM and CIT courses include components relevant to the investigation of parental and non-parental abductions and attempts and the management of these cases.

### **Alternatives Reviewed**

Not applicable.

### **Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities**

The information contained in this report is applicable to the Board with respect to the Service's compliance to Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulations.

### **Relevant Policy Considerations**

Police Services Board By-Law 295-2010 - Parental/Non-Parental Abductions & Attempts  
General Order 173.10 - Parental and Non-Parental Abductions  
General Order 095.10 - Major Incidents & Routine Criminal Investigations  
General Order 076.13 - Missing Persons  
General Order 084.08 - Child Abuse and Neglect

### **Other Pertinent Reports**

8.9.2022.03.24 – Annual Report – Parental and Non-Parental Abductions and Attempts – January 1 to December 31, 2021.

*This report was prepared by Sarah Rose, Staff Sergeant, Major Crime Unit, in consultation with and reviewed by Dave Masotti, Inspector, Investigative Support Services. Reviewed by Todd Waselovich, Superintendent, Emergency and Investigative Services, and recommended by Brian Ash, Acting Deputy Chief, Operational Services.*



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#### **Submitted by:**

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Chief of Police

### **Appendices**

Not applicable.