



# NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

## Police Service Board Report

**PUBLIC AGENDA**

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**Subject:** Annual Report – Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms  
January 1 to December 31, 2023

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

**Report Date:** 2024-06-11

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### **Recommendation(s)**

**That the Niagara Police Service Board (Board) receives this report for information.**

### **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to advise the Board that the Service is in compliance with Board By-Law 497-2024 – Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms.
- The Chief is required to make an annual written report to the Board with respect to safe storage of police service firearms.
- This report sets out a summary of procedures required by this By-Law and the status of Service compliance with those procedures.

### **Financial Considerations**

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

### **Analysis**

In accordance with By-Law 497-2024, the Chief shall develop procedures and processes relating to the safe storage of police service firearms and shall make a written report to the Board on or before August 30 of each year with respect to specific information. The report shall contain:

- a) a summary of the written procedures relating to the safe storage of police service firearms;
- b) the status of Service compliance with the said procedures; and
- c) confirmation that members have been trained in accordance with section 4.2.

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

- a) a summary of the written procedures relating to the safe storage of police service firearms;

The written procedures set forth by the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) relating to the safe storage of police service firearms are reflected within section 3.35(e) of General Order 053.25 entitled "Use of Force". The section states that members shall store their firearms in accordance with provincial and federal legislation. It provides details on storage procedures of Service firearms within a secure police facility, a private residence, or location other than a police facility. These storage protocols adhere to the provisions of the Ontario Policing Standards Manual AI-009, "Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms".

- b) the status of Service compliance with the said procedures;

At the time of this report, it was determined that there have not been any contraventions to General Order 053.25 section 3.35(e), with respect to the safe storage of police service firearms during the reporting period of January 1, 2023 to and including December 31, 2023.

- c) confirmation that members have been trained in accordance with section 4.2.

Section 4.2.1 of the By-Law specifically states: "The Chief shall ensure that members receive the appropriate training in relation to firearms safety and that members have the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform this function."

Section 3.35(d)(i) of General Order 053.25, entitled "Use of Force" indicates that annual use of force refresher training includes an academic component that reviews use of force related legislation, reporting requirements, principles of firearms safety and safe storage and security practices. Members who have not completed use of force training must surrender their use of force equipment. This includes their issued firearm.

In 2023, a firearms academic lesson plan which addresses the above requirements was developed and delivered during annual In-Service Training (IST) starting in September 2022 and ending in June 2023. A subsequent session of annual IST starting in September 2023 and running for the remainder of 2023 facilitated this training to members issued Service firearms.

The NRPS is compliant the provisions of section 4.2 of By-Law 497-2024.

### **Alternatives Reviewed**

Not applicable.

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

This report is for information purposes and has no immediate strategic priorities.

## **Relevant Policy Considerations**

- Board By-Law 497-2024 – Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms
- Provincial Adequacy Standard AI-009
- NRPS – General Order 053.25, "Use of Force"

## **Other Pertinent Reports**

8.12 - 2023.07.27 – Annual Report – Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms – January 1 to December 31, 2022

*This report was prepared by Sergeant Jesse Hicks, Training Unit in consultation with Staff Sergeant Mike Casella, Training Unit, Inspector Paul Koscinski, Professional Development and reviewed by Superintendent Sandy Staniforth, Executive Services. Recommended by Luigi Greco, Deputy Chief, Support Services.*

T. WASELOVICH

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### **Submitted by:**

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## **Appendices**

Not applicable.