



# NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

## Police Service Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

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**Subject:** Annual Report – Conflicts of Interest of Police Service Members  
January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

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

**Report Date:** 2025-02-05

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### Recommendation(s)

**That the Niagara Regional Police Service Board (Board) receive this report for information as it relates to conflicts of interest of police service members.**

### Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to advise the Board that the Niagara Regional Police Service (Service) is in compliance with By-Law 510-2024.
- The Chief is required to make a written annual report to the Board with respect to Conflicts of Interest of Police Service Members.
- This report will provide a summary of requirements to ensure the Service is in compliance with the By-Law.

### Financial Considerations

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

### Analysis

In accordance with By-Law 510-2024 – Conflicts of Interest of Police Service Members, the Chief shall make a written report to the Board in January of each year. This report shall include:

- a) The number of conflict of interest investigations undertaken by the Service during the preceding year;
- b) The number of conflict of interest investigations referred to other police services during the preceding year;

*(Conflict of Interest investigations include “Personal Conflict”, “Actual Institutional Conflict” and “Potential Institutional Conflict” as defined in O. Reg. 401/23)*

The Service's General Order – 261.01 Investigative Conflicts of Interest, came into effect on January 7, 2025. This General Order was put in place to comply with the provisions set out in the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, O. Reg. 401/23 and By-Law 510-2024, Conflicts of Interest of Police Service Members.

The Service has always been alive to the realization that a Service member's private interests or personal relationships place, or may reasonably be perceived to place, the member in a conflict with their professional duties with respect to the provisions of policing functions. The Service has maintained operational efficiency and effectiveness, and to maintain the safety of its members and confidence of the public by eliminating or mitigating circumstances where the relationships between members of the Service and members of the public, may give rise to potential or actual conflicts of interest. However, prior to January 7, 2025, official mechanisms to record these conflicts of interest had not been formally established. Moving forward, the Service has established clear guidelines for disclosure of conflicts of interest by using the Solicitor General approved forms.

The Service recognizes that a significant shift in reporting and tracking of information will be required to be compliant in these areas. To address this knowledge gap, the Service is in the process of developing a "Training Bulletin" that will be delivered to the membership by our Training Unit that will provide clear instructions to assist our membership.

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

- a) *"...The number of conflict of interest investigations undertaken by the Service during the preceding year..."*

During the 2024 calendar year, the Service conducted one criminal investigation on the behalf of outside police services.

The Solicitor General Approved Form: "Requirement to Notify the Inspector General of Policing of Retaining an Institutional Conflict Under Section 7 of the Ontario Regulation 401/23 Conflicts of Interest" has been put into place to track this information and will be reflected in the 2025 Annual Report.

- b) *"...The number of conflict of interest investigations referred to other police services during the preceding year..."*

During the 2024 calendar year, the Service referred 3 criminal investigations to outside police services for investigation that would have constituted a conflict of interest if retained.

The Solicitor General Approved Form: "Requirement to Report Institutional Conflicts to Inspector General of Policing Under Section 8 of the Ontario Regulation 401/23

Conflicts of Interest” has been put into place to track this information and will be reflected in the 2025 Annual Report.

### **Alternatives Reviewed**

Not applicable.

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

To comply with the provisions of the Board By-Laws and to maintain compliance with Adequacy and Effective Policing.

### **Relevant Policy Considerations**

- By-Law 510-2024 – Conflicts of Interest of Police Service Members
- Niagara Regional Police Service General Order – 261.01 Investigative Conflicts of Interest
- O. Reg. 401/23 Conflicts of Interest

### **Other Pertinent Reports**

Not applicable.

*This report was prepared by Jason Myers, Staff Sergeant, Professional Standards Unit in consultation with Lynda Hughes, Inspector, Professional Standards Unit, and reviewed by Paul Koscinski, Superintendent, Executive Services. Recommended by Luigi Greco, Deputy Chief, Support Services.*



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### **Submitted by:**

Luigi Greco #9366  
Acting Chief of Police

### **Appendices**

Not applicable.