



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Police Service Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: Annual Report – Crisis Negotiation
January 1 to December 31, 2024

Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Service Board

Report Date: 2025-04-14

Recommendation(s)

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

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 475-2024 as it relates to crisis negotiation.
- The Chief is required to make a written annual report to the Board with respect to crisis negotiation.
- This report will set out a summary of the procedures required by this By-Law and the status of Service compliance with the said procedures.
- The report will indicate confirmation of the development and maintenance of the manual on crisis negotiation.
- The report will have a summary of the circumstances in which a Crisis Negotiator was deployed.

Financial Considerations

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

Analysis

In accordance with By-Law 475-2024, the Chief shall make a written report to the Board on or before August 30 of each year in respect of crisis negotiation. The report shall include:

- a) a summary of the procedures as required by this By-Law;
- b) the status of Service compliance with the said procedures;
- c) confirmation of the development and maintenance of the Manual on crisis negotiation; and

- d) a summary of the circumstances in which a Crisis Negotiator has been deployed.

This report will outline each of the above and confirm our compliance with the By-Law.

- a) *“...a summary of the procedures as required by this By-Law...”*

The Service is required to have trained Crisis Negotiators available within a reasonable response time to provide services 7 days a week and 24 hours a day. The role of a Crisis Negotiator is a part-time role performed by members assigned to other permanent positions within the Service. The Service is in full compliance with response requirements. Pursuant to General Order (GO) 133.09, the Service is to maintain a pool of 10 Crisis Negotiators. Presently, the Service has 12 deployable Crisis Negotiators.

All new members are trained to meet the requirements of O.Reg.3/99. The Inspector of Emergency Operations maintains the current list of qualified Crisis Negotiators. Copies of the list are in the Duty Office and the Communications Unit and can be located electronically through the Computer Aided Dispatch System.

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

The procedures for Crisis Negotiator deployment, selection, and training are clearly set out in GO 133.09 - Crisis Negotiators. The Service is in compliance with those procedures.

- c) *“...confirmation of the development and maintenance of the Manual on crisis negotiation...”*

The Service presently uses the Canadian Police College's (CPC) “Guide for Incident Commanders and Crisis Negotiators” as its manual. Each Crisis Negotiator possesses an electronic copy, as well as a hard copy of this manual. As new Crisis Negotiators attend the CPC or the Ontario Police College accredited Crisis Negotiator training, the manual is updated.

- d) *“...a summary of the circumstances in which a Crisis Negotiator has been deployed...”*

In 2024, the attendance of a Crisis Negotiator occurred on 45 occasions. This number can be in part attributed to an improved process that ensures the safest approach to resolving critical incidents. This process includes proactively deploying negotiators to planned events, fully prepared to assist if crisis negotiations are required.

Classification of Calls	2022	2023	2024
Armed / Barricaded Persons	10	6	13
High-Risk Warrants / Arrests	16	12	20
Persons in Crisis	9	4	12
Total Calls	35	22	45

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 Adequate and Effective Policing requirements.

Relevant Policy Considerations

Board By-Law 475-2024 - Crisis Negotiation
GO 133.09 - Crisis Negotiators
Adequacy and Effective Policing ER-003 Hostage Rescue Teams
Adequacy and Effective Policing ER-005 Crisis Negotiation

Other Pertinent Reports

8.10 - 2024.05.23 – Annual Report – Crisis Negotiation – January 1 to December 31, 2023

This report was prepared by Mike Tripp, Inspector, Major Crime; reviewed by Matt Hodges, Inspector, Emergency Operations and Darrin Forbes, Superintendent, Emergency Services, recommended by Todd Waselovich, Deputy Chief, Operational Services.



Submitted by:
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Appendices

Not applicable.