



KINGSTON POLICE SERVICE BOARD

Hostage Rescue (ER-001)

Adopted: May 28, 2026 (Res. 26-74)

Reviewed:

Revised:

Expires: Indefinite

Rescinds

Legislation: O. Reg. 392/23: Adequate and Effective Policing (General), 2019.

Policy Statement

The Kingston Police Service Board (the Board) is dedicated to ensuring effective and responsive support for the hostage rescue team, in alignment with the *Ontario Regulation 392/23 Adequate and Effective Policing (General)*. The purpose of this policy is to ensure the Kingston Police Service Board (the Board) has access to specialize hostage rescue team services through formal agreements with other jurisdictions.

Board Policy

Pursuant to *Ontario Regulation 392/23 Adequate and Effective Policing (General) - Emergency Response* it is the policy of the Kingston Police Service Board with respect to the services of a Hostage Rescue Team that:

- a) Hostage Rescue Team support services are available 24 hours a day and within a reasonable response time through the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Framework Agreement;
- b) The Hostage Rescue Team consists of a minimum of twelve (12) full-time tactical officers, including a supervisor, who are dedicated to the team but who, when not in training or undertaking hostage rescue activities, may undertake community patrol; and

c) The Chief of Police, in consultation with the OPP, will:

- I. Establish and maintain written procedures that set out the circumstances in which the services of the hostage rescue team will be deployed, including the steps for obtaining the service and the reporting relationships;
- II. Ensure that the hostage rescue team can undertake containment, the apprehension of an armed barricaded person, and hostage rescue;
- III. Ensure that established procedures set out processes for engagement with individuals who may be in crisis, with the goal of reducing harm and preventing loss of life;
- IV. Develop and maintain a manual on hostage rescue team services that is available to each member providing these services;
- V. Establish a selection process for members of the team, which includes ensuring that members who provide this service meet the requirements of the Adequacy Standards regulation; and have the required knowledge, skills and abilities;
- VI. Ensure the ongoing training of members who provide this service, including training on de-escalation and strategies for engagement with a person in crisis, aimed at reducing harm and preventing loss of life;
- VII. Ensure that appropriate equipment, in accordance with the Ministry's designated equipment and facilities list, is used/available to the members who provide this service;
- VIII. Ensure the Police Service's procedures for hostage rescue are contained in a manual that is available to each member providing that service; and
- IX. Ensure that the Police Service's major incident commanders and crisis negotiators train with the other police services' Hostage Rescue Team, when applicable.

"original signed by Chair"

"original signed by Board Administrator"