



Sarnia Police Services Board Policy

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A Legislative/Regulatory Requirements

Section 29 of the Adequacy Standards Regulation requires a police services board to have a policy on elder abuse and vulnerable adult abuse. In addition, section 12(1)(f) requires the Chief of Police to develop and maintain procedures on and processes for undertaking and managing investigations into elder abuse and vulnerable adult abuse.

For the purposes of this guideline police services may wish to consider the following definition of elder abuse that is being used by the Ontario Seniors' Secretariat:

"Any act that harms or threatens to harm the health or well-being of an older adult. Forms of abuse include psychological, financial and physical abuse, as well as neglect and sexual assault."

Police services may also wish to apply this definition of abuse for vulnerable adults. For the purposes of this guideline, vulnerable adult means:

"A person who depends on others to meet every day needs because he/she has a mental illness or developmental disability, or requires long term or indefinite care due to age or medical condition."

B Board Policy

1. It is the policy of the Sarnia Police Services Board with respect to elder and vulnerable

adult abuse that the Chief of Police will:

- (a) Where possible, work in partnership with the local Crown, municipalities, community and social service agencies/providers, businesses, seniors' and other local organizations to develop programs for preventing and responding to complaints of elder and vulnerable adult abuse, including fraud awareness and prevention; and
- (b) Develop and maintain procedures that require that investigations into elder or vulnerable adult abuse be undertaken and managed in accordance with the police service's criminal investigation management plan.