



## **SARNIA POLICE SERVICE**

### **Public Agenda Recommendation Report**

**To:** Chair and Police Services Board Members

**From:** Chief Derek W. Davis

**Subject:** Annual Report on Urgent Demands for Information Related to Missing Persons

**Date:** 23 March 2023

**Report Number:**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

*“The Sarnia Police Services Board authorize the posting of the 2022 Annual Report on the urgent demands for information related to missing persons on the Sarnia Police website.”*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Derek Davis".

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Derek W. Davis  
Chief of Police

:LM/DD

## **BACKGROUND:**

On July 1, 2019 the Missing Persons Act of Ontario came into effect. This legislation gave police officers the lawful authority to make urgent demands for personal information that would assist in locating missing people. Examples may include banking records, debit or credit card use, cellular phone use.

The legislation includes a mandatory reporting obligation for all police services. Each Service must complete and submit an annual report to the province on the total number of demand for records made, broken down into sub categories of types of information.

The annual report, known as the Form 7, must be submitted to the province by each police service by June 1st of each year.

Missing Persons Act (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/18m03#BK8>):

### **Annual report**

*8 (1) On or before the prescribed date in each year, a chief of police shall prepare an annual report under this section and shall,*

*(a) in the case of a chief of police of a police service maintained by a police service board, provide a copy of the report to the board;*

### **Report public**

*(2) After receiving a report, a board or entity shall,*

*(a) provide a copy of the report to the Minister; and*

*(b) make the report available to the public in the prescribed manner.*

As per section 8(2)(b), the SPSB is also responsible for making the annual report publicly available on a website by June 1, 2023.

## **DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS**

In 2022, the Sarnia Police Service generated 272 calls for Missing Persons investigations. This represents an increase of 68% over 2021 (110 more events).

The very detailed nature and format of this annual report, combined with the number of missing person investigations completed annually in Sarnia necessitated that an automated reporting, tracking and compliance system be implemented. In 2022, with the introduction of the SPS Analytics Unit, technology was developed and introduced that permits officers to specific report details required for this mandatory report. Using web based data collection integrated with our

CAD, RMS systems, enable officers to monitor missing person reports, and input needed data. This implementation has eliminated historical process of manually counting and assembling the information. This represents increased efficiency, higher data quality and more accurate reporting.

The attached appendix represents the 2022 Form 7 for the Sarnia Police Service and it has been submitted to the province.

## **CONSULTATION**

Deputy Chief Julie Craddock  
Inspector Leo Murphy, CID Commander  
Dr. Joseph Glover, Sarnia Police Analytics

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Sarnia Police Services Board authorize the posting of the 2022 Annual Report on the urgent demands for information related to missing persons on the Sarnia Police website.

In accordance with O.Reg.182/19 under the *Missing Persons Act, 2018* the contents included in this report must be prepared by April 1 of each year, and made publicly available by June 1 of each year.

**Data Collection**

**Period of data collection**

Start Date (yyyy/mm/dd) 2022/01/01	End Date (yyyy/mm/dd) 2022/12/31
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Name of Police Force  
Sarnia Police Service

**Detachment Location (if applicable)**

Unit Number	Street Number 555	Street Name Christina Street North	PO Box
City/Town Sarnia	Province Ontario		Postal Code N7T 7W1

Total Number of Urgent Demands made 131	Number of Missing Persons Investigations in which a demand was made 87
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**Types of records specified in the urgent demands and total number of times that each type of record was included in the urgent demands**

Records	Description	Total number of times demanded
Records containing contact information or other identifying information	Previous address records, Snapchat, query of local police database records, local library	28
Photos, videos, or other records containing visual representation	Photos obtained from police database, recent family photos, driver's license photos	32
Records of telecommunications or records that contain other electronic communications information, including information about signals related to a person's location	Ping of cell phones	39
Records of employment information	Queries with employer, Ontario works	3
Records of personal health information within the meaning of the <i>Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004</i>	Methadone Clinic, Bluewater Health	4
Records related to services received from a service provider as defined in subsection 2(1) of the <i>Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017</i>	Children's Aid appointment schedule	1
Records that related to a student of an educational institution	School photos and school profiles	2
Records containing travel and accommodation information	Air BnB, Sarnia Transit and taxi companies	5

Records	Description	Total number of times demanded
Records of financial information	Social Services, Royal Bank, Scotiabank, Bank of Montreal	6
Other records	Family contacts, Native Friendship Centre, Inn of the Good Shepherd homeless shelter	11

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