

Policy Type: **EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS**



Policy Title: **Court Security**

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### **Policy Statement**

The safe operation of court facilities supports the effective administration of justice and enhances community trust and confidence in the criminal justice system, in which the police play an essential role.

The Board is responsible, under section *Community Safety and Policing Act* (CSPA), for elements of security at court facilities, including the security of judges and judicial officers. The Board is also responsible for the secure custody of persons in custody while on or about the court's premises. Paragraph 13 of Ontario Regulation 399/23 outlines specific obligations on the part of the Chief of Police with respect to court security. This policy addresses legislated requirements and specifies how responsibilities will be fulfilled, with the intention of promoting accountability and transparency.

### **Policy Application**

1. The Chief of Police shall:
  - (a) prepare a court security plan;
  - (b) establish procedures on court security that address supervision and training; and
  - (c) ensure that court security personnel have the capability to perform their functions related to court security.
  
2. The Chief of Police shall establish a local Court Security Committee which will include representatives from:
  - (a) the Service;
  - (b) the Regional Crown Attorney's office;
  - (c) the judiciary;
  - (d) the local bar association;
  - (e) victims services/organizations; and
  - (f) Ministry of the Attorney General – Court Services Branch.

3. The Chief of Police shall ensure that the local Court Security Committee meets on a regular basis in order to monitor and assess the Court Security Plan and its implementation.
4. The Chief of Police shall ensure that personnel utilized for court security and prisoner transport have the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities, are adequately trained and supervised, and that training requirements are reviewed and evaluated on a regular basis.

### **Reporting**

1. The Chief of Police shall submit a written report to the Board each year to demonstrate compliance with this policy. The annual report shall also include the following information:
  - (a) an outline of the Court Security Plan and any changes made to the Plan;
  - (b) confirmation that the Plan conforms with Section 243 of the CSPA;
  - (c) the annual cost of the provision of court security;
  - (d) a summary of the issues discussed at the Court Security Committee meetings.