

HALTON REGIONAL POLICE SERVICES BOARD

ADEQUACY STANDARDS POLICY DOCUMENT

Policy No. & Subject: B-VA-001 – Victim Assistance
Date Approved: November 23, 2000
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Reporting Requirement: N/A
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Service Directive Linkage: CPO-040 Victim Assistance

1. **Victims Assistance (pursuant to O. Reg. 3/99 and PSM Guideline No. VA-001)**

1.1 It is the policy of the Board that the Service provide assistance to victims that reflect the principles of the *Victims' Bill of Rights, 1995*, and to set out the roles and responsibilities of Members for providing victims' assistance.

1.2 To support this policy, the Chief of Police shall:

- a) work in partnership with the Ministry of the Attorney General' Victim/Witness Assistance Program (V/WAP) and agencies that deliver the Victim Crisis and Referral Service (VCARS), where available, municipalities, community and social service agencies and other local organizations, promote the development of an integrated service delivery framework for providing assistance to victims including safety planning;
- b) ensure that Members of the Service are aware of victim service providers or a victim referral service available in the area; and
- c) establish procedures on providing assistance to victims; and
- d) ensure that in each instance where there is Police Service contact with one or more victims of crime involving physical and/or psychological injury, that such victims are referred to the appropriate community service available in their area.