




HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Hamilton Police Services Board
BOARD MEETING DATE:	April 25, 2024
SUBJECT:	Missing Person Urgent Demands
REPORT NUMBER:	24-034
SUBMITTED BY:	Frank Bergen, Chief of Police
SIGNATURE:	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Missing Persons Act, enacted in July 2019, addresses barriers faced by Ontario police officers in investigating missing person cases, particularly in non-criminal situations where access to records and permission to conduct searches were limited.
- The legislation aims to enhance police response effectiveness by granting access to records (e.g., telephone, banking, medical, travel) and powers to search premises in certain circumstances, while also considering individual privacy rights.
- Ontario policing agencies can utilize Form 5 under the Missing Persons Act for Urgent Demands in missing person's cases.
- According to Section 8 of the Act, police services must annually report their use of Urgent Demands, covering demands from January 1 to December 31 of the previous year, utilizing Form 7.
- Transparency and public accountability are ensured through reporting results of Urgent Demands to Police Services Boards and posting outcomes on agency websites.
- Past annual reports (2020-2022) are available on the HPS website.

INFORMATION

In accordance with the Ministry of the Solicitor General, Missing Person Act, 2018 Ontario Regulation 182/19, the obligation to make the annual Urgent Demand for Records report available to the public is on the Police Services Board. Each year, the Chief of Police, or designate is obligated to prepare an annual report and provide a copy to the Police Service

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Board, in the format approved by the Minister ie: Form 7. The Police Service Board is then responsible for making the annual report available to the public by posting it on a website.

For the current reporting period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, the Hamilton Police Services made 24 urgent demand for records.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix A – Form 7

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