



WATERLOO REGIONAL  
POLICE SERVICE  
BOARD

## WATERLOO REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE BOARD POLICY

**Policy Number: 025**

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND HOSTAGE RESCUE

Date Approved:

September 13, 2000

Dates Amended:

Date to be Reviewed:

### Policy of the Board

1. It is the policy of the Waterloo Regional Police Services Board with respect to the services of an Emergency Response Unit (tactical) and Hostage Rescue that:
  - a. the Service will provide emergency response (tactical) and hostage rescue services by using its own members, and that the services will be available 24 hours a day, within a reasonable response time;
  - b. the unit will consist of a minimum of 12 full-time emergency response officers, including the supervisor, who are dedicated to the Emergency Response Unit but who, when not training or undertaking tactical activities, may undertake community patrol; and
  - c. preliminary perimeter control and containment will be provided by patrol officers until relieved by Emergency Response Unit members.
2. The Chief of Police will:
  - a. establish procedures that:
    - i. set out the circumstances and operational responsibility in which preliminary control and containment will be established;
    - ii. set out the deployment of other emergency response services, including receiving assistance from other agencies;
    - iii. set out the duties of an officer involved in the establishment of preliminary control and containment, including compliance with the requirement of *section 22(3) of the Adequacy Standards Regulation*, pending deployment of the emergency response unit; and
    - iv. set out the circumstances in which the Emergency Response Unit will be deployed to provide services including hostage rescue, as well as the process for obtaining these services and reporting relationships;

- b. ensure that the Emergency Response Unit can undertake containment, the apprehension of an armed barricaded person, and explosive forced entry when it uses the services of a police explosive forced entry technician;
- c. ensure the development and maintenance of a manual on emergency and hostage rescue unit services that is available to each member providing this service;
- d. establish a selection process for members of the unit, including ensuring that members who provide this service meet the requirements of the *Adequacy Standards Regulation*;
- e. ensure the ongoing, and joint training of members who provide this service; and
- f. ensure that appropriate equipment, in accordance with the Ministry's designated equipment and facilities list, is used/available to the members who provide these services.