

Ontario
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Municipal Policing Bureau
Bureau des services policiers des municipalités

777 Memorial Ave.
Orillia (ON) L3V 7V3

777, ave Memorial
Orillia ON L3V 7V3

Tel: 705 329-6200
Fax: 705 330-4191

Tél.: 705 329-6200
Téléc.: 705 330-4191

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July 22, 2022

His Worship Chris Peabody
Mayor
Municipality of Brockton
100 Scott Street, PO Box 68
Walkerton ON N0G 2V0
cpeabody@brockton.ca

Dear Mayor Peabody:

As a follow-up to the previous correspondence from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Commissioner Thomas Carrique dated January 28, 2022, I wish to inform you that we have conducted a review of occurrences that are typically generated by routine processes and procedures within courthouses to whereupon charges are laid against offenders for not appearing in court.

We have studied patterns of such occurrences throughout the province over several years and noticed different trends, including some that appeared to be influenced by COVID-19 pandemic impacts on the courts. We have conducted detailed reviews of Fail to Appear occurrences to try and gain a clearer understanding of the degree of police activity related to these occurrences.

As a result of this review, we have decided that our method of allocating calls for service costs to municipalities could be improved by removing certain courthouse activity-related occurrence types from our list of billable calls for service. In total five occurrence types are being removed: "Fail to Attend" occurrences and four bail violations occurrence types related to offenders being absent from court.

This change will be effective for the 2023 billing year with no retroactive adjustments to previous billing years. Your municipality's 2023 Annual Billing Statement will include the recalculated amount as well as an explanatory note.

We maintain that the allocation of municipal policing costs under the OPP Billing Model methodology ensures a fair cost-recovery process that continues to provide a high level of cost stability for municipalities receiving their policing services from the OPP.

We appreciate the municipality bringing this matter to our attention and thank you for helping us to make improvements in our processes to ensure municipal policing costs are allocated on a fair and equitable basis. We hope this revision to billable calls for service occurrence types addresses the concerns raised in the Municipality of Brockton's request for a costing review.

In conjunction with Inspector Miller and her staff, OPP Municipal Policing Bureau members would be happy to answer any further questions, or if you require any additional information from the OPP, please contact your assigned Municipal Policing Specialist or our Bureau at OPP.MunicipalPolicing@opp.ca or (705) 329-6200.

Yours truly,



Phil Whitton
Superintendent
Commander,
Municipal Policing Bureau

c: Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General, Ministry of the Solicitor General

Thomas Carrique
Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner

Mary Silverthorn
Provincial Commander, OPP Corporate Services

Chief Superintendent Dwight Thib
OPP West Region Commander

Inspector Krista Miller
OPP South Bruce Detachment Commander