

Ministry of the Solicitor General

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MEMORANDUM TO: All Chiefs of Police and
Commissioner Thomas Carrique
Chairs, Police Services Boards

FROM: Stephen Waldie
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

SUBJECT: State of Financial Crime and Serious Fraud in Ontario

DATE OF ISSUE:	August 16, 2019
CLASSIFICATION:	For Action
RETENTION:	September 13, 2019
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PRIORITY:	Normal

The Ministry of the Solicitor General is conducting a survey on the state of financial crime and serious fraud in Ontario. The detailed purpose and objectives of the survey can be found in Appendix A.

All municipal and First Nation policing service providers and the Ontario Provincial Police are requested to participate in the survey to share their practices and experiences with financial crime and serious fraud.

The survey is comprised of open numerical response and multiple-choice questions and will not require a significant amount of time to complete. Data is being collected for the period of January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018 with some questions requesting data from 2019 (YTD). This survey will be conducted on an annual basis.

The ministry requests that police service boards and chiefs of police provide the necessary information by **September 13, 2019**. We appreciate your assistance and would like to thank you in advance for your contribution to the survey.

The findings of the survey will not serve as a scorecard to evaluate the performance of any investigative organization.

The collection, retention, and disclosure of information will be carried out in accordance with all applicable legislation. Responses will not be publicized, and all data will be anonymized and aggregated before reporting.

If you have any questions about the survey or face any technical issues, please contact Kelly Barnes, Senior Research and Statistics Advisor at kelly.barnes@ontario.ca.

To access the survey, please follow this link:

https://ontariomcscs.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2i2rPo693kFWkRL

Thank you again for your participation and feedback.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Waldie", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Stephen Waldie
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

Attachment

Appendix A

Purpose

The purpose of this survey is to collect information from investigative organizations regarding financial crime and serious fraud in Ontario.

***Note:** This survey will not serve as a scorecard to evaluate the performance of any investigative organization. Responses will not be published, and all data will be anonymized and aggregated before reporting. This survey will be conducted annually.*

Objectives

1. To enhance awareness of the challenges of financial crime and serious fraud affecting Ontario's law enforcement community.
2. To identify opportunities for the Serious Fraud Office to support Ontario's law enforcement community to meet the challenges of serious fraud in Ontario.
3. To establish an enhanced set of indicators to measure the impact of the Serious Fraud Office and create a current baseline.
4. To assess the magnitude and array of financial crime and serious fraud reported to investigative organizations.
5. To assess the capacity of investigative organizations to respond to complaints of financial crime and serious fraud.
6. To assess the financial crime and serious fraud caseload and workload of investigative organizations.
7. To assess monetary recoveries obtained through property seizures, restraints, and forfeitures as well as restitution paid to victims of financial crime.
8. To assess awareness of the Serious Fraud Office.

Definitions

Serious Fraud: Serious fraud is a fraud that has significant impact on society or significant financial loss in total. However, the totality of the loss is not the sole determining factor for acceptance of investigative carriage. Mechanisms for committing fraud can incorporate corruption, collusion, multiple jurisdictions and/or elements of organized crime. Consequences of fraud have serious impacts on victims and erode public confidence in democratic processes, government integrity, and financial sector stability. Consideration must be given to an agency's capacity to investigate a serious fraud complaint.

Fraud: The wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

Financial Crime: The unlawful conversion of the ownership of property for personal use and/or benefit. Examples of financial crimes include but are not limited to: fraud, theft, bribery, embezzlement, stock market manipulation, and money laundering the proceeds of crime.