

**Ministry of the  
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January 17, 2020

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Marc Bedard, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Public Safety Division, Ministry of the Solicitor General

**FROM:** Jane Mallen, A/Assistant Deputy Attorney General  
Policy Division, Ministry of the Attorney General

**SUBJECT:** Special Investigations Unit Act In-force Date

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The purpose of this memorandum is to advise policing stakeholders across the province of the government's proposal to bring the [Special Investigations Unit Act, 2019](#) (SIU Act) into force on June 30, 2020.

On March 26, 2019, [Bill 68, the Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019](#) (COPS Act) received Royal Assent. The COPS Act includes a new standalone statute, the SIU Act, which will focus on clarifying the mandate of the SIU to ensure more timely, efficient, reasonable and transparent investigations. The new legislation will ensure that the province has effective and independent police oversight, while respecting the integrity and professionalism of our province's frontline police officers.

Once in force, the SIU Act will:

- establish the SIU as a fully independent provincial agency;
- require the SIU to investigate any discharge of a firearm at a person by an official, regardless of whether serious injury or death occurred;
- remove the ability of the SIU to investigate criminal conduct of policing officials outside of its mandate;
- permit the SIU to investigate special constables employed by the Niagara Parks Commission and peace officers in the Legislative Protective Service, in addition to police officers; and,
- require the SIU to report publicly on investigations that take more than 120 days to complete and release further updates every 30 days thereafter.

The government is proposing to bring the SIU Act into force on **June 30, 2020**. If members of the law enforcement community would like to provide feedback on the proposed in-force date, they can provide their views to the us via email to Andrea Hargovan, Director of the Agency and Tribunals Branch in the Ministry of the Attorney General at [Andrea.Hargovan@ontario.ca](mailto:Andrea.Hargovan@ontario.ca).

Thank you for your assistance in bringing this memorandum to the attention of the policing community. We look forward to continuing to work with police services to enhance the openness and transparency of Ontario's policing oversight system.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Jane Mallen  
A/Assistant Deputy Attorney General  
Policy Division  
Ministry of the Attorney General