

**From:** Craig Burley

**Sent:** January 21, 2021 2:36 PM

**To:** Ferguson, Lloyd <[Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca)>; [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca); Stevenson, Kirsten <[Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca](mailto:Kirsten.Stevenson@hamilton.ca)>

**Subject:** Street Checks/Carding

[Dear Clerks: please include a copy including attachment as correspondence to the next meeting of the Hamilton Police Services Board and also to the General Issues Committee re PSB budget]

Dear Councillor Ferguson,

I understand that at today's General Issues Committee, you had questions for Deputy Chief Bergen as part of the Police Services Board's budget presentation. The questions were on the topic of street checks or "carding".

In so doing, you raised a rather conspiratorial point: that until after Chief Girt's departure you would not be able to receive a "clear" answer on the reasons for street checks and carding having been significantly restricted (which, as you will know, was done by provincial regulation).

I think I can help. Justice Tulloch was asked by the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services to prepare a report on Street Checks in 2017. In late 2018, he brought forward his report. It was **very clear** and contained two pages in particular, in the introduction, which demonstrated concisely the uselessness--indeed counterproductiveness--of "carding" and street checks as a policing tool.

I really do think this brief to-page analysis (the full report is at <http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/sites/default/files/content/mcscs/docs/StreetChecks.pdf> if you wish to read it) is fully explanatory of why it was important for random and arbitrary street checks to be eliminated. It is two pages and can be easily read in five minutes.

With thanks and regards,

Craig Burley

encl. Pages 27-28 of Justice Michael Tulloch, *Report of the Independent Street Checks Review*

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Craig Burley  
Barrister & Solicitor