

Ontario Provincial Police



Police provinciale de l'Ontario

Chris D. Lewis

Commissioner Le Commissaire

File #: 240-00

October 18, 2012

Mr. André Marin
Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman of Ontario
Bell Trinity Square
10th Floor, South Tower
483 Bay Street
Toronto ON M5G 2C9

Dear Mr. Marin:

Thank you for providing the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) with a copy of your Final Report concerning the investigation into how the OPP and the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services have addressed operational stress injuries affecting police officers.

I want to assure you that it has always been the OPP's intention to respond to each of your 28 recommendations. Your draft report was provided to the OPP on the understanding that it would remain confidential and it would not be copied. As a result, the OPP was unable to engage in comprehensive study with subject matter experts in the five weeks we were provided to respond. In addition, we interpreted the invitation to provide representations as an opportunity to validate facts/figures contained within the report. As a result, the OPP's response focused on the spirit of full cooperation and study of the recommendations, but we were not in a position to outline in detail our eventual response to each recommendation.

Let me once again assure you that the OPP takes operational stress injuries seriously and recognizes the important work of your office in conducting a thorough 18-month investigation of this issue and the implications it has on the OPP and the broader police sector.

Once the final report is issued and the OPP has had an opportunity to conduct a comprehensive review of the 28 recommendations, we will provide you with a detailed response to each recommendation. To that end, I will be establishing a working group, led by a senior officer, in order to review your recommendations and take appropriate action.

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Mr. André Marin
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I want to reiterate my commitment to ensuring that our members receive the support that they need to have healthy lives and full and productive careers.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lewis", written in a cursive style.

Chris D. Lewis

/rmd