

Report to / Rapport au:

**OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD
LA COMMISSION DE SERVICES POLICIERS D'OTTAWA**

25 March 2024 / 25 mars 2024

Submitted by / Soumis par :

Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service / Chef de police, Service de police d'Ottawa

Contact Person / Personne ressource :

**Deputy Chief Patricia Ferguson: Investigations, Information, and Organized &
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**SUBJECT: AXON – OPERATIONALIZATION OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

**OBJET: AXON - OPERATIONNALISATION DU SYSTÈME DE GESTION DES
INFORMATIONS SUR LES PREUVES NUMÉRIQUES**

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ottawa Police Services Board delegate authority to the Chief of Police to sign a contract for Digital Evidence Information Management System licences required to operationalize the Axon Evidence.com Digital Evidence Information Management System, for the amount of \$1,106,622.27 before applicable taxes.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de services policiers d'Ottawa délègue au chef de police l'autorisation de signer un contrat pour obtenir les licences du Système de gestion de l'information sur les preuves numériques requises pour employer le Système d'Axon Evidence.com pour la gestion de l'information sur les preuves numériques, pour un montant de 1 106 622,27\$ avant les taxes applicables.

BACKGROUND

In October 2023, the Ottawa Police Service obtained Board approval to acquire 600 Axon Evidence.com Digital Evidence Information Management System (DEIMS) licences to support the replacement of the end-of-life VideOversight digital audio visual interview

recording system. The 600 licences provided a foundation to support a full operationalization of DEIMS.

DISCUSSION

The Ontario Solicitor General has negotiated preferred pricing with Axon Canada, towards the advancement of a common DEIMS solution for Ontario. As part of this program, the Solicitor General offered a subsidy for licence acquisition from Axon based on the size of the Service if they are activated by of the 1st anniversary of the initiation of the Program. For the Ottawa Police Service, that date was March 24, 2024.

With the October 2023 Board approval to replace the VideOversight digital audio video interviewing system, the OPS purchased 600 DEIMS licences to support the system for investigators. In March 2024, the Ottawa Police Service qualified for the maximum one-time subsidy of \$285,600 by activating these 600 licences in preparation for transition to the new system in late May 2024.

As reported to the Board in October 2023, it was intended that this initial deployment would establish a foundation for an expanded DEIMS deployment within OPS to modernize the management of digital evidence.

The Ministry of the Attorney General and the Solicitor General for Ontario coordinated this Axon Evidence.com Program and has now established Evidence.com as the standard for managing the receipt of digital evidence disclosure in Ontario.

With the DEIMS foundation now in place at OPS and the Ontario courts of justice, 481 additional licences are required to complete operationalization of the DEIMS system to manage digital evidence for OPS and support seamless disclosure to the courts. With the addition of these licences, uniform members will transition to the virtual collection of digital evidence making evidence submission more convenient for victims and witnesses. Completing the operationalization of DEIMS will ensure that there is a single centralized process for the secure management and disclosure of digital evidence reducing disclosure delays.

Procurement of additional licences from an existing supplier: The OPS has an established relationship with Axon as part of the Ministry of the Solicitor General Axon Evidence.com DEIMS program and already leverages many of Axon's products. With this procurement, the OPS will expand the number of DEIMS user licenses to fully operationalize this existing system.

The proposed Axon DEIMS procurement will include:

- **481 additional licenses for the Axon Evidence.com DEIMS solution**

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The licences will be activate upon approval to support the operationalization of the DEIMS system in late May 2024.

- The expense of **\$1,106,622.27** before taxes, will be paid over a 5-year period. This project will be funded for the full first year expense of \$187,570.53 from revenue from the Solicitor General Subsidy, along with future budget requests of \$919,051.74 to cover expenditures in 2025 through to 2028.

CONCLUSION

The procurement of the additional Axon system licences will allow for the successful implementation and operationalization of the Digital Evidence Information Management System for the Ottawa Police Service.