

**Office of the Chief Coroner
Inquest Unit**

Forensic Services and
Coroners Complex
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Toronto ON M3M 0B1

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**Bureau du coroner en chef
Unité des enquêtes**

Complexe des sciences judiciaires
et du coroner
25, Avenue Morton Shulman
Toronto ON M3M 0B1

Téléphone: (647) 329-1890
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January 17, 2025

Via email: Habib.Sayah@ottawa.ca

Habib Sayah
Executive Director/ Sr. Policy Advisor
Ottawa Police Service Board
P.O. Box 9634 Station T,
Ottawa, ON K1G 6H5

Dear Mr. Sayah:

**Re: Inquest into the death of: Abdirahman ABDI
Date Death Pronounced: July 25, 2016
OCC Inquest File No.: Q2024-46
Date Inquest Jury Verdict &
Recommendations Received: December 17, 2024**

The jury in the inquest into the death of Abdirahman Abdi has made recommendations which your organization may be in a position to implement. Please report back regarding your consideration to implement the recommendations relating to your organization by completing the attached chart, **Responses to Jury Recommendations**. Responses to inquest recommendations will be made public. Therefore, your response should not contain personal identifiers with the exception of identifying the decedent.

We do request a response by July 17, 2025. The *Coroners Act* provides no authority for us to demand a response to a recommendation or set deadlines for a response. However, we do post responses publicly, and scrutiny of the responses has been growing. Public criticism may follow if a thoughtful response is not received in a timely manner.

A list of organizations requested to report back is provided.

We are pleased to provide you with a copy of the inquest jury verdict and recommendations. The presiding officer's verdict explanation will be sent when it becomes available.

I would like to explain the significance of inquests and consequent recommendations under the *Coroners Act*. An inquest is a public hearing conducted by a coroner (or a judge, or a retired judge or a lawyer) before a jury of five community members. Inquests are held for the purpose of informing the public about the circumstances of a death. An inquest does not find fault, blame or legal wrongdoing but rather examines the circumstances of one or more deaths and looks for lessons that can be learned from the death(s) that may contribute to a safer future for the living. Juries often make recommendations based on these learned lessons and, while they are not

binding, it is hoped that implemented recommendations will prevent future deaths in similar circumstances.

Please provide us with the name and contact information of the individual leading your organization's response. If you feel any of the recommendations should be directed elsewhere, complete the attached **Contact Information and Recommendation Referrals form and forward** to occ.inquests.registraroffice@ontario.ca .

As noted above, inquest jury recommendations are not legally binding; however, we trust they will be given careful consideration for implementation and, if not implemented, that your organization provides an explanation.

Thank you for participating in this important process. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Cameron".

David A. Cameron, MD, LLB, CCFP
Regional Supervising Coroner – Inquests

DAC/sc

Attachments:

Responses to Jury Recommendations

List of Organizations Requested to Respond to Jury Recommendations

Contact Information and Recommendation Referrals

**Responses to Jury Recommendations
ABDI Inquest Q2024-46**

OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE BOARD

RECOMMENDATION:

26 – 28

REC. #	ORGANIZATION'S RESPONSE

List of Organizations Requested to Respond to Jury Recommendations
ABDI Inquest Q2024-46

Ottawa Police Service

Ottawa Police Service Board

Ministry of the Solicitor General

Ontario Police College

Ottawa Guiding Council for Mental Health and Addictions

City of Ottawa

Ottawa Public Health

Ministry of Health

Centretown Community Health Centre

Somerset West Community Health Centres

Ottawa Paramedic Services

Office of the Chief Coroner

Public Health Agency of Canada

Public Health Ontario

Canadian Psychiatry Association

Province of Ontario

**Contact Information and Recommendation Referrals
Responses to Jury Recommendations
ABDI Inquest Q2024-46**

OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE BOARD

Part I: Contact Information

Name	Position Title
Email address	Telephone number

Part II: Referral

We believe the following recommendations may be best addressed by these organizations:

Recommendation Number	Organization Name & Address	Contact Name & Title

Forward to occ.inquests.registraroffice@ontario.ca