



Toronto Police Service

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William Blair
Chief of Police

File Number:

June 13, 2010

Ms. Abby Dushman
Project Director
Canadian Civil Liberties Association
360 Bloor Street West, Suite 506
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1X1

Dear Ms Dushman:

Re: Request for Additional Information Pertaining to the G20 Summit

Thank you for your letter. You have asked a number of questions. I hope this overview of the Toronto Police Service security perimeter and the registration card process will address your concerns. I would like to mention this process varies considerably from the one applied by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) for the purposes of their security perimeter and accreditation process. I am sure that you would agree, those questions are best answered by Commissioner Elliott.

Security Perimeter

The Toronto Police Service is working with the RCMP to provide a safe and secure environment for the G20 Summit. Providing this security means creating a number of different security zones around the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

The Toronto Police Service's security perimeter is often referred to as the "interdiction zone" or the "yellow zone". The fence for the security perimeter is represented by the orange line on the map I have appended to this letter. Construction of this fence started on Monday, June 7, 2010 and will continue 24 hours a day until it is complete. Deconstruction of the fence will begin on Monday, June 28, 2010.

It is our hope this perimeter will not be secured until Friday, June 25, 2010. However, if security reasons dictate, we will be in position to secure it before that date. Once the perimeter has been secured, Toronto Police Service members will begin to control access into the perimeter by

engaging with members of the public. This engagement will take many forms and is intended to ensure the security of the perimeter is not compromised.

There are various legal authorities for the police to take reasonable measures to control access to areas of the city in order to ensure the security of those participating in the Summit. The *Police Services Act* and common law impose duties on provincial and municipal police officers including preserving the peace; protecting life and property; and preventing crimes and other offences.

As well, under the *Foreign Missions and International Organizations Act*, police are responsible to ensure security for the proper functioning of conferences such as the G20. This includes taking appropriate measures including controlling, limiting or prohibiting access to any area to the extent and in a manner that it is reasonable.

Every case will be dealt with on an individual basis and police will balance the need to protect life and property with the constitutional rights of every citizen.

Registration Card Process

Individuals who live or work within the security perimeter have been offered an identification card.

This process was voluntary. They were asked to provide their name and location address in order to be provided with a card. No security checks were done on their information and no security checks are being done at the security perimeter. The Toronto Police Service made a request to the Toronto Police Services Board to have this information destroyed immediately following the summit instead of retaining it for 12 months as listed in the current Toronto Police Service policy. This request was approved by the Toronto Police Services Board at its meeting of May 20, 2010 (Board Minute No. P135/2010 refers).

The registration cards, along with photo identification, will have to be presented at any of the identified checkpoints to gain expedited access to the security perimeter, whether on foot or by vehicle. Generally speaking, access will not be denied to those with photo identification and a specific destination within the security perimeter.

Those who do not have registration cards and are unable to present photo identification, or are unable to present photo identification and appropriately identify a destination within the security perimeter, may be denied entry at the discretion of a police officer.

Searches

Based on the discretion of the officer and the circumstances presented, anyone requesting access into the security perimeter may be subject to search. Trunks will be searched and vehicles will be subject to an external search using a mirror to access the undercarriage.

These searches are being done for security purposes to assist police with providing a safe environment for the summit.

I trust that this information has addressed your questions. Thank you for writing and sharing your concerns with us.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Blair', written in a cursive style.

William Blair, O.O.M.
Chief of Police
Toronto Police Service