

New Law Enforcement Training Targets Senior Leaders for Workplace Fatalities and Serious Injuries

JPMF empowers law enforcement to trace fatal safety failures to leadership decisions and act with the full weight of the law

CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA, June 20, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Hamilton, ON – June 11, 2025:

“

When unsafe conditions are incentivized, tolerated, or left uncorrected, these aren't accidents they're foreseeable outcomes. And our law has the power to hold those at the top to account.”

Rob Stewart

In an important move to close Canada's long-standing workplace enforcement gap, the John Petropoulos Memorial Fund (JPMF) delivered a comprehensive one-day training course to the Hamilton Police Service, Brampton Police Service and the Ontario Ministry of Labour focused on prosecuting serious workplace injuries and deaths under the Canadian Criminal Code.

Titled "Enforcing the Criminal Code for Workplace Serious Injuries & Deaths", the course provided law enforcement professionals with advanced tools to identify and prosecute senior organizational leadership when systemic

safety failures result in worker serious harm or death. The course links safety culture, leadership causation, and criminal liability.

“Senior executives control budgets, shape workplace culture, and ultimately determine whether safety is a priority or a box to check,” said Rob Stewart, spokesperson for JPMF. “When unsafe conditions are incentivized, tolerated, or left uncorrected, these aren't accidents they're foreseeable outcomes. And our law has the power to hold those at the top to account.”

From Culture to Criminal Causation

Backed by Sociotechnical Systems (STS) Science, the course introduced a forensic framework that enables investigators to trace safety failures to decisions made in executive suites where budget cuts, production pressures, and cultural normalization often converge to compromise human life. The training aligns with the Criminal Code's sections 217.1, 21, and 22, which creates a legal duty, and that senior officers can be held criminally accountable as a party to the offence when

they fail to take reasonable steps to prevent harm.

Participants analyzed real case law and engaged with STS control diagrams and cultural causal maps that convert vague ideas like “poor culture” into legally admissible evidence of criminal negligence and abetting.

Turning Legal Power into Action

Canada has among the strongest workplace Criminal Code provisions in the Western world but they are rarely enforced. This training is designed to change that by equipping authorities to identify:

- Where corporate shortcuts replaced critical safety controls;
- When leadership decisions signaled tolerance for risk;
- How normalized behaviours meet the legal thresholds for “knowing acquiescence” or “intent to benefit.”

This course is not just about prosecuting accidents it's about prosecuting choices.

About the John Petropoulos Memorial Fund (JPMF)

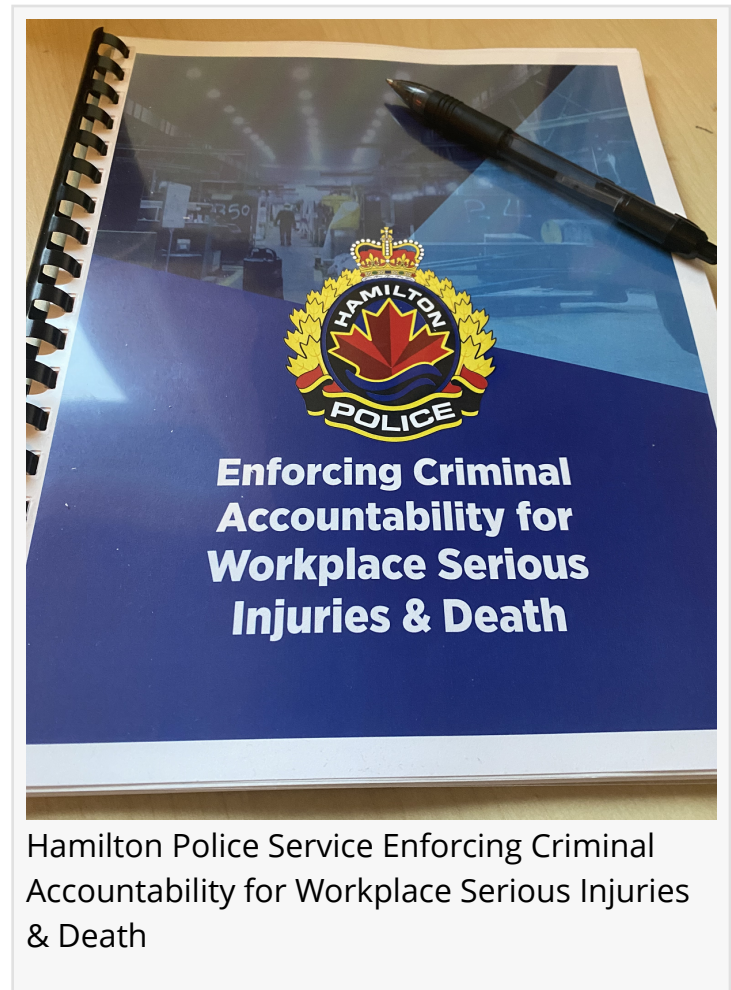
The John Petropoulos Memorial Fund works to prevent workplace injuries and fatalities by promoting leadership accountability, system-level prevention, and public education. The Fund honours the legacy of Constable John Petropoulos, who died in the line of duty due to a preventable workplace hazard. His legacy continues to shape our commitment to safer, more accountable workplaces.

Robert Stewart
John Petropoulos Memorial Fund
robstewart@jpmf.ca

Visit us on social media:

[LinkedIn](#)

[X](#)



Hamilton Police Service Enforcing Criminal Accountability for Workplace Serious Injuries & Death

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2025 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.