



# Evidence and Property Handling Policy

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## Purpose:

To ensure that the EPS maintains a safe and reliable system and requirements for the purpose of identifying, handling, and maintaining continuity of property and evidence.

## Statement of Principle:

The EPS is committed to the development of effective and safe practices for maintaining the integrity of property and evidence in its possession.

## Policy Statement:

To execute investigations effectively, support prosecutions, and build public confidence, the EPS manages property that comes into its possession through seizure, recovery, evidentiary means, abandonment, or for safekeeping by:

1. maintaining processes to protect the integrity of evidence and property through standards for its identification, handling, and continuity,
2. defining standards for its retention and disposition,
3. upholding practices to locate and notify owners of property in police control,
4. holding evidence and property in secure locations with controlled access, and
5. working to keep all those who are required to handle or be in close proximity to property and evidence safe.