

Gareth Jones - Bio

Gareth is the Director of the Special Ombudsman Response Team (SORT) at the Office of the Ombudsman of Ontario. He is responsible for directing all major investigations conducted by the Office, including systemic investigations into aspects of policing at the 2010 G20 in Toronto, Use of Force by Corrections Officers in Ontario jails, how police services deal with officers with PTSD and, most recently, de-escalation by police when dealing with emotionally disturbed people. Previously, he held a similar position at the Department of National Defense and Canadian Forces (DND/CF) Ombudsman's office.

Prior to that, he was an investigator with the Attorney General of the Province of Ontario, Special Investigations Unit (SIU). SIU has an exclusive mandate to investigate deaths and serious injuries involving police officers. Gareth conducted about 500 criminal investigations into incidents where police were involved in a death or a serious injury, including approximately 100 incidents involving the discharge of a firearm, as well as numerous police pursuits, custody deaths and allegations of sexual assault by police officers.

Previously, Gareth was a police sergeant with the Metropolitan Police, London, UK.

Gareth has created and delivered general, specialist and customized training on how to conduct investigations to investigative agencies on every continent, except Australia, including for agencies that conduct police oversight investigations.

Gareth is the author of *Conducting Administrative, Oversight and Ombudsman Investigations*, (Carswell 2009) and *The Top Ten Things Not To Do When Setting Up A Police Oversight Agency* (BCCLA 2012). He has written several articles on conducting investigations, in particular on the challenges of police oversight investigations. He also authored *Undertaking Effective Investigations: A Guide For National Human Rights Institutions*, which was published by the Asia Pacific Forum in 2013. The APF is an umbrella group for 19 National Human Rights Institutions in the region.

He has been retained to give expert evidence in police shooting and police pursuit cases in the United States, Canada and the Cayman Islands. He has an honours degree in history from the University of Manchester, UK.