



CS21

COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICERS

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POLICY

- 1. In accordance with the Police Act and subject to the collective agreement between the Delta Police Board and the Delta Police Association, special municipal constables may be appointed by the Chief Constable, on behalf of the Board, in the role of Community Safety Officers (CSOs), to assist in the Department carrying out public safety and crime prevention strategies.
2. As special municipal constables, CSOs are granted the powers, duties and immunities of a municipal constable, i.e., a peace officer, subject to the restriction that those powers, duties and immunities only apply when a CSO is acting under the supervision of and as directed by a member.
3. CSOs may not be issued firearms, but may be issued intermediate weapons, as defined in Provincial Policing Standards, if trained in their use in accordance with those Standards.
4. A member supervising and directing a CSO must at all times be mindful of the Criminal Code s. 217.1 duty to take reasonable steps to prevent bodily harm to a person whose work is being directed, and the associated s. 219 offence of criminal negligence for failure to comply with that duty.



5. As a result of the restriction to their special municipal constable appointment, CSOs are not peace officers while off-duty and therefore not subject to the common law and statutory duties that apply to off-duty peace officers.
6. While on duty, but not acting under the supervision of and as directed by a member, a CSO may only engage in the use of force if presented with circumstances in which their own safety, an individual's safety or public safety is at risk, or it is clearly consistent with the public interest.
7. The Chief Constable shall establish Procedures concerning the administrative and operational management of the CSOs, and provide for their training.
8. All Department Policies, and Procedures pursuant to those Policies, that refer and apply to 'members' and 'employees' also apply to CSOs, but only in so far as the Policies and Procedures are applicable to the CSOs' activities, as authorized by the Chief Constable.

REASON FOR POLICY

9. To allow employment of CSOs in support of the Department's activities relating to public safety and crime prevention.
10. To ensure the administrative and operational integrity and effectiveness of the CSO Program.

RELATED POLICIES

Department Policies referring and applying to 'members' and 'employees' apply to CSOs, as applicable based on their authorized activities

PROCEDURES

General

11. CSOs report to the Chief Constable, through the Inspector i/c Patrol Services and may operate under the supervision and direction of the Sergeant i/c Public Safety Operations or a Patrol Services Staff Sergeant.



12. The Patrol Inspector shall ensure that the following are established and carried out in relation to CSOs:
 - a) the clear establishment of the scope of CSOs' authorized assignments, in compliance with this Policy;
 - b) the determination, development and delivery of necessary training;
 - c) supervision requirements specific to CSO activities; and
 - d) annual performance reviews and evaluations of each CSO.

13. The Inspector i/c Human Resources shall ensure that the following are established in relation to CSOs:
 - a) a hiring application process, qualification requirements and selection criteria;
 - b) appointment in accordance with the *Police Act*;
 - c) administration of an Oath of Office;
 - d) uniform clothing requirements and issuance;
 - e) means of identification and issuance of the same; and
 - f) authorization of issued equipment and issuance of the same.

Application of the *Police Act*

14. CSOs are subject to provisions of the *Police Act* when they are on duty and off duty, including concerning misconduct, complaints, investigations, proceedings and discipline.

Identification

15. A CSO must carry a Department issued ID card when working and produce that card at the requests of any member of the public with whom the CSO may engage.



16. A CSO may only identify, assert and seek to rely on their authority as a special municipal constable, i.e., a peace officer, for purposes necessary to their employment.
17. A CSO may disclose generally their employment as a CSO, but shall not, and shall seek to ensure that they are not perceived to, disclose their employment as a CSO for personal gain, and when not working, shall not assert or create an impression of having authority greater than any regular citizen.

Use of Department Vehicles

18. A CSOs may only operate the following Department vehicles:
 - a) motor vehicles specifically designated and decaled as CSO vehicles;
 - b) bicycles or e-bikes;
 - c) any motor vehicle, if authorized by the Sergeant i/c Public Safety Operations or a Patrol Services Staff Sergeant; and
 - d) any motor vehicle if directed by a member who reasonably believes that, due to exigent circumstances, the CSO's use of the vehicle will assist in protecting the safety of one of more other persons.
19. A CSO driving a Department vehicle may exercise no authority granted by section 122 of the *Motor Vehicle Act* and the *Emergency Vehicle Driving Regulation* other than the authority to stop or park their vehicle on a road if also operating the vehicle's emergency lights.
20. A CSO intending to stop or park their vehicle on a road must first assess that it is safe to do so, having regard to all the circumstances, including the following:
 - a) the nature, condition and use of the road;
 - b) the amount of traffic that is on, or might reasonably be expected to be on, the road; and
 - c) the nature of the use to be made of their vehicle at the time.



21. A CSO may only exit a vehicle stopped or parked on a road, if wearing issued high visibility apparel or in exigent circumstances.

Training

22. The training of CSOs, overseen by the Patrol Inspector and coordinated by the Public Safety Operations Sergeant, shall adhere to Provincial requirements and Department training for members, as applicable based on the CSOs' authorized activities.
23. CSOs will receive training in use of force, but not firearm training (except safe handling training).

Use of Force

24. A CSO may only use force, while not acting under the supervision of and as directed by a member, if reasonably necessary in response to a risk to the CSO's own safety, another individual's safety or public safety, or it is clearly consistent with the public interest, and if the CSO has given consideration to:
- a) whether the risk or interest can be sufficiently addressed by calling for a member to attend;
 - b) the adequacy of the tools or equipment available to the CSO to ensure their own safety upon engaging; and
 - c) the adequacy of their skills to ensure their own safety upon engaging.

Note Taking & Report Writing

25. CSOs shall document their on-duty activities in a Department issued notebook and complete a Police Statement in the PRIME records management system in relation to all incidents during which the CSO was present and for which a member creates a General Occurrence report.

*Revised Dates:
N/A