



DP51

WEAPONS ISSUANCE & MANAGEMENT

DP51

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Contents

POLICY 1

REASON FOR POLICY 2

RELATED POLICIES 2

DEFINITIONS 3

PROCEDURES 4

 Control 4

 Damaged or Malfunctioning Firearms or Intermediate Weapons 4

 Holsters 5

 Handcuffs 5

 Intermediate Force Weapons 5

 Extended Range Impact Weapon 5

 Issue 5

 Maintenance, Care & Control 5

 Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWs) 6

 Issue 6

 Care, Maintenance & Control 7

 CEW Battery Charge Level 7

 CEW Operational Probe Cartridges 7

 CEW Repair & Replacement 7

 Firearms 8

 Issue 8

 Administrative Control & Training 8

 Weapons & Restraints Carry, Transport & Safe Storage 9

 Maintenance, Care & Control 10

 Firearm Relinquishment 11

POLICY

1. Issuing weapons to, and their deployment by members of the Delta Police Department (Department) must accord with federal and provincial legislation, provincial standards and Department procedures.



2. Only weapons approved by the Director of Police Services and authorized by the Chief Constable may be issued to and deployed by members of the Department in the performance of their duties.
3. The Chief Constable will ensure that the Department maintains a list of all firearms and intermediate weapons currently authorized for use and made available to members.
4. Only members qualified in the use of authorized weapons, as per B.C. Provincial Policing Standards (BCPPS) and Department approved training, may be issued and authorized to carry and use these weapons.
5. Members are prohibited from carrying their issued firearms, other weapons, ammunition or any other use of force equipment when off duty, except as authorized by the Chief Constable.
6. All Department issue firearms, other weapons and ammunition are required to be safely and securely stored when not in use.
7. All Department issue firearms and intermediate weapons are required to be kept in clean and workable order.
8. Members in seconded positions may, upon being qualified to do so, use firearms and other weapons, as authorized by the agency for use specific to the position.

REASON FOR POLICY

9. To provide requirements pertaining to the authorization, issuance, maintenance and control of Department weapons and to seek to ensure members' and Department's issuance, maintenance, cleaning and storage of weapons are compliant, as well as consistent with BCPPS and federal regulations.

RELATED POLICIES

DP40 – Uniforms, Insignia & Identification
DP50 – Personal Protective Equipment
IC10 – Use of Force



DEFINITIONS

Ammunition, Munition or Cartridge: a projectile intended for use with a firearm or other thing intended to be fired or forcefully released by a firearm or other weapon during operational use.

Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW): a weapon designed to use a conducted electrical current in order to incapacitate a person, or to generate compliance through pain.

Restraint: any device or system designed to restrict an individual's normal physical range of motion or activity.

Safely Stored/Safe Storage: the firearm is:

- a) unloaded;
- b) further secured by:
 - i) means of a Secure Locking Device and by being stored in a container, receptacle or room that is kept securely locked and that is constructed so that it cannot readily be broken open or into, or
 - ii) stored in a vault, safe, or room that has been specifically constructed or modified for the secure storage of restricted firearms and that is kept securely locked, or
 - iii) in the even that i) or ii) above are unavailable rendering the firearm inoperable by removing the barrel, keeping the barrel separate from the firearm and locking the firearm frame to an immovable object; and
- c) not readily accessible to ammunition, unless the ammunition is stored, together with or separately from the firearm, in:
 - i) a container or receptacle that is kept securely locked and that is constructed so that it cannot readily be broken open or into, or
 - ii) a vault, safe or room that has been specifically constructed or modified for the secure storage of restricted firearms and that is kept securely locked.



Secure Locking Device: a device that can only be opened or released by the use of an electronic, magnetic or mechanical key or by setting the device in accordance with an alphabetical or numerical combination; and that, when applied to a firearm, prevents the firearm from being discharged.

Training Cartridge: anything intended to be fired or forcefully released by a firearm or other weapon during training use, and by design intended to be less than lethal or inert, including blue simulation air cartridges for scenario-based training.

Weapon: any thing designed, intended or used for inflicting physical bodily damage or harm and includes firearms and the following intermediate weapons whose normal use is not intended or likely to cause serious injury or death:

- oleoresin capsicum spray (OC spray);
- impact weapons, specifically batons;
- extended range impact weapons; and
- conducted energy weapons.

PROCEDURES

Control

10. Members must ensure that every weapon, all munitions, ammunition, cartridges and restraints issued to them are safely stored when not being carried for operational use.
11. Members must ensure that any weapons and restraints (except disposable restraints) issued to them, or that they sign-out, are, remain and are returned, in operational, cleaned and well-maintained condition.

Damaged or Malfunctioning Firearms or Intermediate Weapons

12. If a firearm, other weapon or restraint in a member's possession is damaged or malfunctions, the member must:
 - a) safely store it;
 - b) before the end of the member's shift, advise the Operational Skills Unit of the nature of the malfunction or damage and the stored location of the weapon or restraint; and



- c) arrange for a temporary replacement from the Operational Skills Unit.

Holsters

- 13. Members may only use holsters approved by the Chief Constable and issued to the member by the Department.
- 14. Members are required to complete any training provided by the Department for the types of holsters issued to them.
- 15. Members may only use their issued holsters in relation to the specific position, assignment or type of duty, as set out in the 'Departmental Approved Holster List' that is published separately from these Procedures.

Handcuffs

- 16. Members are responsible for handcuffs in their possession and must ensure that they are kept clean, lubricated and functioning properly in accordance with the member's training.

Intermediate Force Weapons

- 17. Only members who are qualified in the use of authorized intermediate force weapons shall be authorized to carry and use the same.
- 18. The Operational Skills Unit will maintain a list of intermediate weapons currently authorized for use by members.

Extended Range Impact Weapon

Issue

- 19. The following extended range impact weapon is authorized to be issued to members:
 - a) LMTS Tactical Single Shot 40mm launcher and eXact iMpack sponge round munition.

Maintenance, Care & Control

- 20. Members must always safeguard extended range impact weapons and munition under their care and control, and ensure they are safely stored when not being carried for operational use.



21. Members storing an extended range impact weapon and munition in a vehicle must ensure that it is unloaded and secured in a gun rack or in a locked case in the vehicle's trunk.
22. At the start of every shift, members must:
 - a) inspect their extended range impact weapon and perform a function check;
 - b) inspect each issued extended range impact munition to ensure it is free of any damage; and
 - c) remove any worn or damaged munition from service and submitted to the same to the Operational Skills Unit for replacement.

Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWs)

Issue

23. Authorized members may be assigned CEWs and CEW probe cartridges as personal issue equipment.
24. Members must always safeguard CEWs and probe cartridges under their care and control, and ensure they are safely stored when not being carried for operational use.
25. Members who sign-out a CEW and probe cartridges must use the equipment tracker system, to allow tracking of:
 - a) each CEW in the possession of a member;
 - b) the CEW's unique identifier;
 - c) the number of probe cartridges; and
 - d) the date and time the CEW and probe cartridges were signed out and returned.
26. The Duty NCO will be responsible for the daily control process for CEWs and probe cartridges.



Care, Maintenance & Control

27. CEWs and probe cartridges available for sign-out shall, when not in use, be safely stored in the Headquarter or the Public Safety Building equipment rooms and are required to be signed out/in, using the Equipment Tracker system, at the beginning and end of each shift.
28. Members are not to store a CEW with an operational cartridge attached.
29. Members carrying a CEW must do so in a Department approved holster on the side of the body opposite their pistol.

CEW Battery Charge Level

30. A member who observes a CEW with a battery charge level that reads below 20%, is not to sign out or carry the CEW and is required to notify the Operational Skills Unit.
31. The Operational Skills Unit may use CEWs at below 20% for training and will dispose of any battery at 1% battery life.
32. Members are to be aware that continued use of battery with 0% power may damage the CEW.

CEW Operational Probe Cartridges

33. Operational probe cartridges are marked with a five-year expiration date and members may not carry or use a cartridge that has reached its expiry date or is damaged.
34. The Operational Skills Unit may use expired operational cartridges for training purposes, but not for scenario-based training.

CEW Repair & Replacement

35. Members who have reason to suspect or are aware that a CEW is faulty or malfunctioning must not sign it out or continue carry it and must advise their supervisor.
36. A supervisor who is advised that a CEW is faulty or malfunctioning must remove it from service, tag it, and as soon as possible send it to the Operational Skills Unit for data downloading and repair or replacement.



Firearms

37. The Department is the registered owner of all firearms issued to members and the Superintendent i/c Administration Bureau shall ensure that all firearms are registered with the Canada Firearms Centre.
38. Members must be thoroughly familiar with all aspects of their firearm, ammunition, magazines, ammunition pouch, belt and holster and will be held strictly accountable for the condition of their firearm and associated equipment.

Issue

39. Members must always safeguard firearms and ammunition under their care and control, and ensure they are safely stored when not being carried for operational use.
40. The Administration Bureau will maintain a list of firearms currently authorized for use by members.
41. Members may only carry and use ammunition issued by the Operational Skills Unit.
42. Members in seconded positions with outside agencies may be qualified, authorized to use and issued firearms specific to their position with that agency, but are also required to maintain their Department firearm qualification while on secondment.

Administrative Control & Training

43. The Operational Skills Unit will maintain a current record of:
 - a) firearms and their respective serial numbers;
 - b) to whom the firearm is issued;
 - c) firearms currently stored and available for issue to new members or as temporary replacements for firearms needing repair or seized for investigative reasons; and
 - d) all temporarily issued firearms.



Weapons & Restraints Carry, Transport & Safe Storage

44. Members shall not carry their firearms, any issued intermediate weapon or restraints while off duty, unless authorized by the Chief Constable, and members so authorized are responsible for ensuring safe storage and compliance with the *Firearms Act* and associated *Regulations*.
45. Members wearing their Patrol Uniform are required at all times while on duty to:
 - a) carry their issued pistol with ammunition chambered, in a Department approved and issued holster;
 - b) carry two additional full pistol magazines;
 - c) carry a baton, OC spray, and a CEW (if a CEW is available in inventory for signing out);
 - d) have readily accessible, i.e. have in their vehicle, their carbine and extended range impact weapon, if issued; and
 - e) carry handcuffs.
46. Members on duty and dressed other than in Patrol Uniform are required, subject to s. 47 following, to at all times carry:
 - a) their issued pistol with ammunition chambered, in a Department approved and issued holster;
 - b) a second full pistol magazine;
 - c) at least one intermediate weapon (e.g. issued plain-clothes-sized OC spray);
 - d) one approved restraint capable of securing the hands; and
 - e) a 'POLICE' emblazoned issued sash or 'take-down' jacket.
47. Despite the above requirement, members are not required to carry one or more of the listed items if:
 - a) excused temporarily by their supervisor, for an operational, administrative or medical reason, on a shift-by-shift basis for a partial or whole shift, and that supervisor is required to document, in an



- operational plan or other report, the reason(s) for excusing the member from the requirement;
 - b) not currently qualified in its use;
 - c) excused due to accommodation approved by the Deputy Chief Constable i/c Administration Bureau or delegate;
 - d) participating in physical training/exercise;
 - e) attending training, a conference or business event;
 - f) subject to air-travel restrictions;
 - g) in dress uniform; or
 - h) specifically exempted by the Chief Constable.
48. Unless authorized by the Deputy Chief Constable or delegate, a member shall not permit a civilian to carry, handle or discharge their firearm.
49. Members must unload firearms using an unloading station whenever practicable.
50. A member may transport a firearm or other issued weapon for the purpose of:
- a) regular duties;
 - b) attending a training course;
 - c) traveling and attending a recognized shooting range for the purpose of training;
 - d) taking the weapon home, in order to, from home, attend training in use of the weapon or for cleaning; or
 - e) as authorized by the Chief.

Maintenance, Care & Control

51. The Operational Skills Unit is responsible for:
- a) the repair of all firearms;



- b) arranging delivery to a designated repair facility, if required to perform repairs;
 - c) ensuing that only a certified Armourer repairs a firearm;
 - d) ensuring that all firearms are subjected to a comprehensive annual inspection; and
 - e) ensuring that any necessary maintenance is performed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
52. The Operational Skills Unit will seek to efficiently schedule the timing of inspections and maintenance, and maintain a detailed record of inspections and cleaning.

Firearm Relinquishment

53. A member shall relinquish their firearm(s) and ammunition to the Chief Constable, Deputy Chief Constable or designate, and the member's supervisor shall ensure that the member does or has done so, when:
- a) a member will be on sick leave for more than 30 calendar days;
 - b) a member goes on any type of leave without pay;
 - c) member is suspended from duty;
 - d) member is on parental leave;
 - e) there is reason to believe the member may be unfit to handle a firearm; or
 - f) any other reason is determined by the Chief Constable.

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