



IR22

FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION SERVICES

IR22

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POLICY

1. The Chief Constable shall ensure forensic identification services, for the recovery, collection and preservation of evidence, are available to Delta Police Department members and provide Procedures, pursuant to this Policy, regarding their use.

REASON FOR POLICY

2. To seek to enhance the effectiveness of investigative processes.

RELATED POLICIES

- IC31 – Identification of Criminals Act
- IM20 – Sudden Death
- IM60 – Motor Vehicle Collisions
- IP40 – Property & Exhibits
- IR21 – Crime Scene



PROCEDURES

Oversight

3. The Deputy Chief i/c Community Policing Bureau shall ensure the provision of forensic identification services by contract with the RCMP's Lower Mainland District Integrated Forensic Identification Services (IFIS).
4. The Inspector i/c Investigative Services is responsible for overseeing members' requests for IFIS services.
5. Delta Police Department members seconded to IFIS must adhere to RCMP policies and procedures and take direction from their assigned supervisor.

Requesting IFIS Attendance

6. Members attending an incident shall, after securing the scene, determine if IFIS attendance is required to conduct a search for trace evidence, and record, collect and preserve such evidence.
7. Members shall obtain supervisor approval to request IFIS to attend.
8. The Duty Officer and IFIS must immediately be notified for homicides or attempted homicides, any offence where a person sustains grave injuries (including serious motor vehicle collisions), suspicious sudden deaths, or any incident where the preservation of forensic evidence is essential to the investigation.
9. Fingerprints must be obtained from a deceased person, who is known or suspected to have a criminal record, in order to confirm their identity.

Submitting Evidence to IFIS

10. Members shall, as necessary, submit evidence to the appropriate IFIS section for examination (refer to Policy IP40 – *Property & Exhibits*):
 - a) **Alcohol** - examination of blood, urine and other body fluids for the presence of alcohol;
 - b) **Chemistry** - identification of unknown material by comparison of questioned material with known material (e.g., paint, glass, petroleum, explosive and incendiaries, motor vehicle light filaments,



- building/household products, fire debris for accelerants, metal, bullets, wire, drillings);
- c) **Documents** - examination of handwriting, typewriting, cheque comparisons, charred documents, rubber stamp impressions, paper types, writing instruments, gambling devices, and documents containing alterations or erasures;
 - d) **Firearms** - examination of firearms and ammunition, propellant powder residue patterns, tool marks, and serial number restoration;
 - e) **Hair & Fibre** - identification and comparison of hair, fibres, textile, and glass fractures.
 - f) **Serology** - identification and typing of human body fluids such as blood, semen and saliva to determine common origin (includes animal species identification); and
 - g) **Toxicology** - identification of unknown poisons and drugs, technical support for the investigation of clandestine laboratories, examination of body fluids and tissues in cases of death and impaired driving, and interpretation of dosage effects.
11. If the identity of an arrested person is in question, fingerprints shall be obtained, added to Intellibook and sent to IFIS for identification.
12. If a composite drawing is required, members shall consult with the Inspector i/c Investigative Services to request the same from IFIS.

*Revised Dates:
01 May 2008
16 March 2012
15 December 2014