



DM13

AUTHORITY & SUPERVISION

DM13

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POLICY

1. Under the direction of the Delta Police Board, the Chief Constable has general supervision and command over the Delta Police Department (Department) and must exercise powers and perform duties in accordance with the *Police Act*, and any other enactment, and ensure compliance with the *BC Provincial Policing Standards (BCPPS)*.
Police Act s. 34
2. The Chief Constable may delegate their powers or duties as deemed necessary and as permitted by the *Police Act* and BCPPS.
3. The Chief Constable is responsible for the overall operation and administration of the Department and shall establish an organizational structure, identifying positions that have the authority over and are responsible for each component or function.
4. The Chief Constable shall provide Procedures, pursuant to this Policy, regarding authority and supervision.

REASON FOR POLICY

5. To seek to ensure the effective and efficient provision of policing and law enforcement.



6. To establish a line of authority to seek to ensure effective and efficient leadership and supervision.

RELATED POLICIES

- EC31 – Personal Relationships
- EM11 – Rank & Position Descriptions
- EM23 – Promotional Process
- EM24 – Acting Appointments

PROCEDURES

Line of Authority & Responsibility

7. The line of authority and responsibility for members, by rank, is as follows:
 - a) Executive Officers:
 - i) Chief Constable,
 - ii) Deputy Chief Constable,
 - iii) Superintendent, and
 - iv) Inspector;
 - b) Supervisors:
 - i) Staff Sergeant, and
 - ii) Sergeant;
 - c) Senior Constable, i.e., Constable having more service than another Constable;
 - d) Constable; and
 - e) Special Municipal Constable, i.e., appointed under *Police Act* s. 35.
8. If employees of different sections or functions are engaged in a single task or duty, the Chief Constable or delegate shall ensure a clear and defined line of authority is established and conveyed to all involved employees.



9. Supervisors are responsible for the daily administration and operation of their respective sections and of employees under their immediate supervision.

Delegation

10. During the absence of the Chief Constable, a Deputy Chief Constable automatically assumes all the powers and responsibilities of the Chief Constable.
11. In the absence of an Executive Officer, the on-duty Patrol Staff Sergeant assumes the responsibility of Chief Constable until relieved by an Executive Officer.
12. Employees who are authorized to fill temporary supervisor or management vacancies shall exercise the authority of that rank or position (refer to Policy EM24 – *Acting Appointments*).

Compliance

13. Police staff must comply with the clear, reasonable and lawful instruction issued by someone with authority over that employee or any such instruction relayed through another employee.
14. Members must promptly and diligently obey the lawful order of a supervisor, or any member senior in rank, including any such order relayed through another member.

Police Act s. 77(3)(m)(iii)
15. If more than one lawful order is given that may conflict, the member shall:
 - a) follow the last order given; and
 - b) inform the member issuing the last order of the conflict.
16. If the conflicting order is not altered or retracted following notice of the conflict, the member is not to be held responsible for disobedience of the original order.
17. Despite the above, members maintain discretionary powers to make decisions necessary for the effective and lawful execution of their duties.

*Revised Dates:
31 January 2008



Delta Police Department Policy

12 April 2012
06 May 2016
08 December 2022