



DP51

**WEAPONS ISSUANCE & MANAGEMENT**

DP51

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**POLICY**

1. The Chief Constable must ensure that only weapons, restraints and related equipment (e.g., ammunition, cartridges, holsters) approved by the Director of Policing & Law Enforcement Services, as required, are issued to Delta Police Department (Department) members.  
BC Provincial Policing Standards (BCPPS) 1.1.1, 1.2.2 & 1.3.3
2. The Chief Constable may make an application to the Director of Policing & Law Enforcement Services for the use of a weapon, restraint or related equipment that has not previously been approved.  
BCPPS 1.1.1, 1.2.2 & 1.3.3
3. Members may only carry or use any weapon, restraint, or related equipment (excluding in training) as authorized and issued by the Chief Constable, and:

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- a) while on-duty, unless otherwise authorized by the Chief Constable;
- b) in accordance with law, the BCPPS, Department approved training, this Policy and other related Department policies; and
- c) if they have successfully completed the required training, (re)certification or (re)qualification for that weapon, restraint and related equipment.

BCPPS 1.1.1, 1.2.2 & 1.3.3

4. Seconded members may carry and use weapons, restraints or related equipment as required by the agency to which they are seconded, and must also maintain their Department firearm qualification.
5. The Chief Constable shall provide Procedures, pursuant to this Policy, regarding the issuance, management, and carrying and use of weapons, restraints and related equipment.

## REASON FOR POLICY

6. To seek to ensure weapons, restraints and related equipment are issued, managed, and carried and used in a lawful, safe and appropriate manner.

## RELATED POLICIES

DP40 – Uniforms, Insignia & Identification  
DP50 – Personal Protective Equipment  
EM21 – Training  
IC10 – Use of Force

## DEFINITIONS

7. For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions will apply:

**Restraint:** any device or system that is designed to restrict the normal physical activity or range of motion of a person in part or in whole (e.g., handcuffs, disposable restraint devices, leg restraints, spit hoods, and devices of opportunity such as a rope or belt) (BCPPS 1.2.3).

**Weapon:** anything designed to be used to cause injury or death to or to temporarily incapacitate a person (*Criminal Code*, s. 2), including **intermediate weapons** (BCPPS 1.2.2) and **firearms** (BCPPS 1.1.1).



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## PROCEDURES

### Oversight

8. The Chief Constable or delegate is responsible for oversight of all Department issued weapons, restraints and related equipment, including but not limited to:
  - a) maintaining a list of all items currently authorized for use;
  - b) maintaining an up-to-date inventory of items stored and/or available for issue or replacement;
  - c) maintaining detailed records of all items issued to members, including their respective serial numbers, as applicable, and to whom the item is issued;
  - d) ensuring all items that have not been issued are safely and securely stored; and
  - e) facilitating required training, (re)qualification and (re)certification (refer to Policy EM21 – *Training*), including:
    - i) ensuring members carrying or using the item have successfully completed the required training, (re)qualification or (re)certification, and
    - ii) maintaining written records for each member and each session, including the session's date, type (e.g., make/model of weapon), purpose and learning objectives, instructor, and results.

BCPPS 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.2, & 1.2.3

### Responsibilities for Carrying & Use

9. Members must ensure that any weapon, restraint or related equipment that they are carrying or that is in their care or control are:
  - a) safely and securely stored when not in use; and
  - b) maintained in good working order, and if it is not (i.e., damaged or malfunctioning), the member must remove it from service and notify their supervisor as soon as practicable, who shall determine the



appropriate next steps (e.g., Quartermaster, Operational Skills Unit (OSU), Inspector i/c Administration Bureau).

BCPPS 1.1.1 & 1.2.3

10. Members requiring the repair or replacement of a weapon, restraint, or related equipment must notify the OSU, or, as applicable, complete an equipment request form and submit a ticket to the Quartermaster.
11. Members shall document in their notebook upon being issued a weapon, restraint or related equipment, including any relevant details (e.g., expiry date, authorization or training).

### **Required to Carry While On-Duty**

12. Members wearing their Patrol uniform are required at all times while on duty to carry:
  - a) their badge and/or Department insignia in a manner that is visible to the public (unless operating in a covert capacity);
  - b) handcuffs;
  - c) their pistol, in their holster with ammunition chambered;
  - d) two additional full pistol magazines;
  - e) their carbine, an additional carbine magazine, and extended range impact weapon, in their vehicle and readily accessible;
  - f) oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray;
  - g) a conducted energy weapon (CEW), if issued or available; and
  - h) a baton, unless carrying an OC spray and a CEW, in which case members may elect not to carry a baton.
13. Members on-duty not wearing their Patrol uniform are required at all times to carry:
  - a) their pistol, in their holster with ammunition chambered;
  - b) an additional full pistol magazine;



- c) at least one intermediate weapon (e.g. issued plain-clothes-sized OC spray);
  - d) one restraint capable of securing a person's hands; and
  - e) a 'POLICE' emblazoned issued sash, 'take-down' jacket, or issued uniform item with the Department's crest.
14. Despite Sections 12 & 13 above, members are not required to carry one or more of the listed items if:
- a) excused by a supervisor for operational, administrative or health-related reason, in which case the date and reason must be documented;
  - b) participating in or attending Department approved training, event, or exercise;
  - c) if prohibited by air-travel restrictions;
  - d) in dress uniform; or
  - e) otherwise authorized by the Chief Constable or delegate.

### **Testing, Maintenance & Repairs**

15. The Inspector i/c OSU or delegate is responsible for, in relation to all weapons, restraints and related equipment, as required:
- a) conducting necessary maintenance in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, if applicable;
  - b) conducting comprehensive inspections;
  - c) conducting testing and retesting, independent of the manufacturer;
  - d) facilitating repair and replacement, ensuring repairs are conducted by a qualified professional (e.g., Armourer for firearms); and
  - e) maintaining detailed records of all the above.

BCPPS 1.3.6 (7)



16. If it is determined upon inspection or testing that a weapon, restraint or related equipment does not meet required safety and functioning specifications, it must be:
  - a) repaired and retested, confirming that it meets those specifications prior to being returned to service for operational use; or
  - b) properly disposed of or destroyed, if it cannot be repaired to meet those specifications.

BCPPS 1.3.6 (8)

### **Intermediate Weapons**

17. For the purposes of this Policy, intermediate weapons include:
  - a) OC spray;
  - b) CEWs; and
  - c) impact weapons (e.g., batons, extended range).
18. Members authorized to carry and use an intermediate weapon are required to qualify every three years, unless otherwise required by the BCPPS.

BCPPS 1.2.2
19. WorkSafeBC regulations prohibit employees voluntarily being subject to application of intermediate weapons, and no Department member, volunteer, or any other person may participate in voluntary exposure to the same.

### ***Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray***

20. Members may not carry or use an OC spray beyond its expiration date.

### ***Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWs)***

21. At the beginning of their shift, members signing out a CEW and cartridges from the equipment storage room at HQ or PSB must use the equipment tracking system, and:
  - a) record the serial number in their notebook;
  - b) examine them for any damage; and



- c) conduct a function or spark test.  
BCPPS 1.3.3 & 1.3.6 (1 & 2)
- 22. Members who sign out a CEW must return the CEW and cartridges to the equipment storage room at the end of their shift.
- 23. The Inspector i/c OSU or delegate may assign CEWs and cartridges to specialized units or individual members, as required for their duties, and those members are responsible for its proper storage.
- 24. Members must not:
  - a) store a CEW with a cartridge attached;
  - b) carry a CEW or cartridge beyond its expiration date; or
  - c) carry a CEW if the battery level reads below 20%, in which case they shall notify the OSU.
- 25. Members must carry their CEW in a holster on the side of the body opposite their pistol.
- 26. Supervisors are responsible for the daily control process for CEWs and cartridges.  
BCPPS 1.3.3 (4)
- 27. The Inspector i/c OSU or delegate must examine all CEWs for damage at least once per year, and:
  - a) if the Department's inventory includes 100 or more CEWs, test the electrical output of a random sample representing 10% of CEWs each year; or
  - b) if the Department's inventory includes fewer than 100 CEWs, test the electrical output of all CEWs at least once every five years.  
BCPPS 1.3.6 (4-6)

***Extended Range Impact Weapon***

- 28. 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 secured to the vehicle.



## Firearms

29. For the purposes of this Policy, firearms include:
- a) pistols; and
  - b) carbines.
30. Members authorized to carry and use a firearm are required to:
- a) qualify annually;
  - b) articulate to the satisfaction of a qualified instructor as to when lethal force is justified, at least every three years; and
  - c) complete Department practice training (e.g., tactics, decision-making, shooting distances), at least every three years.
- BCPPS 1.1.2 (2, 4 & 6)
31. Members must use a designated unloading station to unload firearms, whenever practicable.
32. Unless authorized by the Chief Constable or delegate, a member shall not permit a civilian to carry, handle or discharge a Department-issued firearm.
33. The Department is the registered owner of all firearms issued to members and the Chief Constable or delegate shall ensure that all firearms are registered with the Canada Firearms Centre.

## *Storage & Transport*

34. Members are responsible for ensuring firearms not in operational use are stored safely and securely, as follows:
- a) unloaded;
  - b) further secured:
    - i) by means of a 'Secure Locking Device,' i.e., can only be opened/released with a key or password/combination, to be kept in a container, receptacle or room that is locked and cannot readily be broken open or into,



- ii) by means of 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) if the above options are unavailable, by means of separating the barrel from the firearm and locking the firearm frame to an immovable object; and
- c) without ready access to ammunition, unless the ammunition is stored (together or separately), in:
- i) a container or receptacle that is locked and 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.
35. Members may only transport a firearm for the purpose of:
- a) assigned duties;
  - b) attending a Department approved training course or recognized shooting range;
  - c) attending a Department sanctioned event, if approved by their supervisor;
  - d) taking the weapon home, in order to attend Department approved training directly from home or to accommodate a change in location of their assigned duties; or
  - e) as otherwise authorized by the Chief Constable.
36. Unless otherwise approved by a supervisor, members shall carry their firearm in its holster if transporting it while on-duty, and if transporting a firearm while off-duty, members must ensure that it is:
- a) unloaded;
  - b) rendered inoperable by means of a Secure Locking Device;
  - c) locked in an opaque container or receptacle that cannot readily be broken open or into; and



- d) not visible from outside the vehicle, if leaving the firearm in an unattended vehicle.

***Relinquishment***

37. Members shall relinquish their firearm and related equipment to the Chief Constable or delegate, and the member's supervisor is responsible for ensuring the relinquishment, if the member:
- a) is expected to be on leave for more than 30 days;
  - b) is on any type of leave without pay;
  - c) is suspended from duty;
  - d) is determined by the Chief Constable to be unfit to handle a firearm;  
or
  - e) as otherwise directed by the Chief Constable.

\*Revised Dates:  
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