



TRANSIT POLICE

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Effective Date: September 12, 2005

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Reviewed Date:

Review Frequency: As Required

Office of Primary Responsibility: Deputy Chief Officer Support Services

POLICY

Definitions

Chief Officer – The Transit Police Chief Officer or delegate.

Designated Constables – The Transit Police police officers appointed by the Police Board.

Use of Force Issue Equipment – Use of force tools issued by Transit Police to its Members, including firearm(s), ammunition, oleoresin capsicum aerosols and expandable baton.

Member – A Designated Constable, the Chief Officer or a Deputy Chief Officer of the Transit Police.

Police Act – The BC Police Act, RSBC, 1996, c.367, and the regulations thereto, including the Transit Police Operations Regulation, all as amended from time to time.

PSU – The Professional Standards Unit within the Transit Police.

Transit Police – The South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Police Service.

Authority

1. The Transit Police must comply with requirements of Part 11 (Misconduct, Complaints, Investigations, Discipline and Proceedings) of the *Police Act*.
2. The Chief Officer is responsible for the general supervision and command over Transit Police staff (civilians and Members).

General

3. The Transit Police will establish a professional standards function to manage the administrative processes and investigation of complaints involving Transit Police Members.
4. Unless otherwise so determined by the Chief Officer, a PSU will carry out the professional standards function for the Transit Police. The PSU will be provided with the sworn and civilian staff necessary to fulfill the assigned responsibilities.

5. The PSU will be responsible for the day-to-day management of complaints against the Transit Police and McNeil disclosure requirements, and the Unit will assist the Chief Officer in ensuring Transit Police complaint processes and investigations are in compliance with Part 11 of the *Police Act*.
6. The PSU operations will be under the supervision of the Deputy Chief Officer Support Services, unless otherwise so determined by the Chief Officer.
7. The PSU will assist the Transit Police with training and education of Members regarding police officer professional conduct and police ethics, the complaint process in the *Police Act* and internal Transit Police protocols in relation to complaints.

Temporary Relief from Duty – Police Act

8. A Member's reassignment or suspension from duties pending investigation or hearing under Division 3 of Part 11 of the *Police Act* will be in accordance with the *Police Act*.
9. The Deputy Chief Officer Support Services will ensure that the Member's Use of Force Issue Equipment, and any other Transit Police issued equipment so determined by the Chief Officer, is retrieved for the period of reassignment or suspension, unless authorization to retain is granted to the Member by the Chief Officer.
 1. Transit Police possession of the retrieved equipment will be properly documented and held in a secure location in accordance with applicable policy.
 2. When an authorization for return of the retrieved equipment is granted by the Chief Officer, the re-issuance to the Member will also be documented for continuity.

Temporary Relief from Duty – Non-Police Act

10. If the Watch Commander or more senior officer finds, or has reason to believe, that a Member is incapable of exercising sound judgment as a result of a physical or psychological condition, will immediately remove the Member's Use of Force Issue Equipment and relieve the Member from duty with pay.
 1. Transit Police possession of the retrieved equipment will be properly documented and held in a secure location in accordance with applicable policy.
 2. When an authorization for return of the retrieved equipment is granted by the Chief Officer, the re-issuance to the Member will also be documented.
11. Through the chain of the command, the matter will be immediately brought forward to the Deputy Chief Officers and Chief Officer.
12. This action is a temporary administrative action based on the Member's fitness for duty. (A suspension under the *Police Act* may not necessarily be applicable or appropriate.)

Relinquishment of Use of Force Issue Equipment - Other

13. In addition to those circumstances addressed in ss. 8 and 10 of this policy, Members will refer to Policy Chapter AC100 – Relinquishment of Issue Equipment for other instances where equipment must be turned in by the Member.

Safekeeping of Issue Equipment

14. The Deputy Chief Officer Support Services will be responsible for ensuring that there are proper procedures in place for the Transit Police safekeeping, security and continuity of Use of Force Issue Equipment that is retrieved or turned in by Members pursuant to provisions of this policy.

[See also: AC100 - Relinquishment of Issue Equipment, AC110 – Service Records of Discipline, AC130 – Internal Discipline Rules and AC140 – Complaints, AG010 – Property Management, OH010 – Firearms and OH020 – Use of Force]

Key References

BC Police Act [RSBC 1996, Chapter 367] (As Amended November 11, 2011)

Collective Agreement

Transit Police Policy Chapter: AC100 – Relinquishment of Issue Equipment (draft)

Transit Police Policy Chapter: AC110 – Service of Record of Discipline for

Sworn Members

Transit Police Policy Chapter: AC130 – Internal Discipline Rules

Transit Police Policy Chapter: AC140 – Complaints

Transit Police Policy Chapter: AC200 – McNeil

Transit Police Policy Chapter: AG010 – Property Management

Transit Police Policy Chapter: OH010 – Firearms

Transit Police Policy Chapter: OH020 – Use of Force

South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Police Service Operations

Regulations [BC Reg. 484 2004]