



**SOUTH COAST BRITISH COLUMBIA
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
POLICE SERVICE**

PANIC ALARMS

Effective Date: June 6, 2006

POLICY

1. The South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Police Service (SCBCTAPS) will provide guidelines to assist personnel in handling panic alarms from specific transit properties for which SCBCTAPS is designated as the emergency contact.
2. In the event that a SCBCTAPS Member is directed by their Supervisor to respond to a panic alarm in a SCBCTAPS police vehicle, the Member will do so complying with the restrictions imposed by Section 122 of the Motor Vehicle Act, taking into consideration their safety and the safety of the public.
3. SCBCTAPS will notify the Jurisdictional Police Department (JPD) and request their attendance upon report or ascertaining of a holdup/hostage incident.

[See also: AG090 – Police Vehicles, OO050 – Radio Response Codes]

REASON FOR POLICY

4. To ensure that all personnel are aware of specific responsibilities to respond to panic alarms from transit properties.

PROCEDURES

Notification of Alarm

5. Requests for SCBCTAPS attendance to panic alarms from transit properties will be received on either the Operations Communication Center (OCC) emergency or non-emergency telephone line.
 1. FIPPA s. 15 - Harm to Law Enforcement
6. When an alarm call is received by the OCC, the Dispatcher will consider the alarm a priority call and immediately dispatch duty Members to the scene and then advise the Watch Commander.

7. In the event that mobile SCBCTAPS Units' locations will not permit timely response to the alarm, the Dispatcher will call 911 and request attendance of the Jurisdictional Police Department (JPD), and then advise the Watch Commander of the action.
 1. The Watch Commander may, depending on the circumstances, direct that a SCBCTAPS police vehicle be dispatched to the alarm. FIPPA s.15 - Harm to [REDACTED] Law Enforcement
 2. FIPPA s. 15 - Harm to Law Enforcement [REDACTED]

Response

- 8. All Units responding to the alarm will advise the Dispatcher of their location. Radio transmissions will be kept short and succinct to ensure that airtime is available for priority information to be broadcast.
- 9. Members will attend the scene with caution, with the public's and police officer safety in mind, and investigate the incident.

- 1. FIPPA s.15 - Harm to Law Enforcement [Redacted]

10. The assigned Unit must notify the Dispatcher by radio and then by telephone as soon as it is reasonably certain that a panic alarm was falsely activated, and the Dispatcher will release any other assigned Units.

- 1. The Dispatcher will contact FIPPA s.15 - Harm to Law Enforcement and inform them accordingly.

11. FIPPA s.15 - Harm to Law Enforcement [Redacted]

[See also: OO040 – Communications Code, OO050 – Radio Response Codes, and OA020 – Hostages and Barricaded Persons]

12. If an armed hold-up incident has occurred or is in progress (excluding situation outlined in s. 11 of this policy chapter), the attending Unit will update the Dispatcher and the Dispatcher will request back up and attendance of the JPD at the scene.

False Alarm

13. FIPPA s.15 - Harm to Law Enforcement [Redacted]

14. FIPPA s.15 - Harm to Law Enforcement [Redacted]