



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

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Effective Date: May 9, 2005

POLICY

Body Armour

1. Body armour, approved by the Chief Officer for the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Police Service (SCBCTAPS), will be provided to every Member engaged in a field assignment.
2. Every SCBCTAPS Member will wear the approved body armour where designated mandatory.

Seat Belts

3. Occupant safety restraining devices will be used in every SCBCTAPS vehicle.

Reflective Vests

4. To comply with Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) health and safety regulations, Members will wear approved reflective vests when their duties require ongoing exposure to vehicular traffic.

REASONS FOR POLICY

5. To provide for the safety of the Members.
6. To provide for the safety of the police vehicle occupants.

PROCEDURES

Body Armour

7. Except where designated mandatory, the wearing of body armour is considered optional at the Member's discretion.
8. It is designated mandatory that Members wear issued body armour while engaged in field assignments and during firearms training and qualifications.

Reflective Vests

9. To comply with WCB health and safety regulations, Members will wear reflective vests when their duties require ongoing exposure to vehicular traffic. These duties include:
 1. planned traffic enforcement,
 2. planned events where Members are required to direct traffic,
 3. motor vehicle accident scenes; Members are further advised to position the police vehicle to provide protection while conducting the investigation, and
 4. other duties requiring Members to be on or near the roadway and exposed to traffic provided that other dangers do not exist, such as maintaining visual contact of the driver during a traffic stop, or a tactical or operational situation where the reflective quality of the vest may endanger the Member's safety.
10. All Members assigned to duties where they will, or may, be exposed to traffic will be issued a reflective vest or outerwear. Other Members may be issued with a vest upon request or if their duties expose them to traffic as described above.
11. Members found in contravention of the WCB regulations, may be liable for a penalty assessed by the WCB.
12. The Supervisor will ensure that:
 1. each Member obtains a reflective vest or has been issued reflective outerwear,
 2. Members are aware that it is mandatory that they wear a reflective vest/outerwear when performing the duties as described in s. 9,
 3. Members wear a reflective vest/outerwear when the Supervisor observes Members performing the duties as described in s. 9.