



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

## **COMMUNICATIONS CODES**

Effective Date: September 12, 2005

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### **POLICY**

1. The use of radio communications codes by South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Police Service (SCBCTAPS) personnel is not mandatory, but it is encouraged.
2. SCBCTAPS personnel will adhere to the standardized radio communications codes developed by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) as adopted by the administrators of the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME-BC) under normal operating circumstances.
3. SCBCTAPS personnel will adhere to the phonetic alphabet developed by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) when communication information requires precise spelling.

### **REASONS FOR POLICY**

4. To ensure that, when used, a standardized phonetic alphabet and a common radio communications code is used by all SCBCTAPS personnel.
5. To ensure that the phonetic alphabet and any radio communications codes used by SCBCTAPS personnel are compatible with those in use by other police agencies that may share a common radio frequency.

### **PROCEDURES**

**[See also: OO010 – Communications: Operations, OO050 – Radio Response Codes]**

### **PHONETIC ALPHABET**

6. When SCBCTAPS personnel are communicating information which requires precise spelling, the following voiced codes must be used to represent the appropriate letters of the alphabet:

A	ALPHA	N	NOVEMBER
B	BRAVO	O	OSCAR
C	CHARLIE	P	PAPA
D	DELTA	Q	QUEBEC
E	ECHO	R	ROMEO
F	FOXTROT	S	SIERRA
G	GOLF	T	TANGO
H	HOTEL	U	UNIFORM
I	INDIA	V	VICTOR
J	JULIETTE	W	WHISKEY
K	KILO	X	X-RAY
L	LIMA	Y	YANKEE
M	MIKE	Z	ZULU

**RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

**Operational Format**

7. Under normal operating circumstances, only the following APCO “10-Codes” will be used by SCBCTAPS personnel (see second table for further explanation of codes):

<b>CODE</b>	<b>OPERATIONAL FORMAT</b>	<b>CODE</b>	<b>OPERATIONAL FORMAT</b>
10-4	Acknowledgement	10-43	Person in Parole Category
10-6	Busy	10-44	Person in Charged (accused) category
10-7	Out of Service	10-45	Person in Elopee Category
10-8	In Service	10-46	Person in Prohibited Category
10-9	Repeat	10-47	Registered Sex Offender
10-10	Negative	10-61	Coffee/Rest Break
10-11	Roadside Check	10-62	Meal Break
10-14	Prepare to Copy	10-66	Prisoner Transport Required
10-17	En Route RCMP Specific	10-67	Unauthorized Listeners Present (Also known as Code 12)
10-20	Location	10-68	Breathalyzer Operator Required
10-21	Call ( ) by Phone	10-71	Sending Complaint to Mobile Work Station (MWS)
10-23	Arrived at Scene	10-72	Serious Alarm
10-27	Driver's License Information Required	10-80	Record of Violence
10-28	Vehicle Registration Information Required	10-81	Record of Robbery
10-29	Check Records for Vehicle and/or Subject	10-82	Record of Offensive Weapon
10-30	Danger/Caution	10-83	Record of B & E
10-33	Officer in Trouble	10-84	Record of Theft
10-35	Off Duty (CAD Specific)	10-85	Record of Drugs
10-36	On Duty (CAD Specific)	10-86	Record of Fraud

10-40	Possible Hit On	10-87	Record of Sex
10-41	Possible Hit now Confirmed with Originating Agency	10-88	Record of Other Criminal Code
10-42	Person/Vehicle in Observation/SIP Category		

**Explanation**

<b>CODE</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
10-4	<b>Acknowledgement</b> ; the Member acknowledges receipt of message and indicates it will be handled as required and/or as requested.
10-6	<b>Busy</b> ; the Member must indicate location and a reason and include on radio log: "CALL SIGN, LOCATION, REASON."  If the unit is 10-6 for a very short time such as a relief break, the Member must also indicate the probable duration.
10-7	<b>Out of service</b> ; a unit which is "10-7" is not available for a call, as opposed to "10-6" which means the unit is "in service, but busy."  Units which are attending court or other duties are classed as "10-6" and NOT "10-7."  If the Member's vehicle is inoperable, or the Member onboard a disabled train, it is classed as "10-7" because a call could not be answered.
10-8	<b>In service</b> ; the Unit will report "10-8" when coming on shift or when returning to service.
10-9	<b>Repeat</b> ; a request to say the message a second time.
10-10	<b>Negative</b> ; the answer statement is negative.
10-11	<b>Checking vehicle</b> ; the Member must report the license plate number, vehicle description, location and reason.  E.g.: "Call sign, 10-11, Plate, Veh. Desc., Location, Reason."  <b>Checking person</b> ; E.g.: "Call sign, 10-11, Description, Location, Reason."
10-14	<b>Prepare to copy</b> ; the following information is detailed and should be noted carefully.
10-20	<b>Location of sender/receiver.</b>
10-21	<b>Call by telephone</b> ; E.g.: "Call sign, 10-21."
10-23	<b>Arrived at scene.</b>
10-27	<b>Driver's license information required</b> ; a Member is requesting that the Motor Vehicle Branch be contacted for information on a licensed driver.
10-28	<b>Vehicle registration information required</b> ; a Member is requesting a check for the registered owner of a vehicle.
10-29	<b>Check records for vehicle and/or subject</b> ; unless otherwise specified, means CPIC System check only.
10-30	<b>Danger or Caution</b> ; may be transmitted as follows: "10-30" - armed and dangerous <u>Flags</u> : - "VICTOR": violent

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "FOX VICTOR": family violence</li> <li>- "ECHO": escapee</li> <li>- "MIKE": mental</li> <li>- "SIERRA": suicidal</li> <li>- "CHARLIE": contagious</li> </ul>
10-33	<b>Officer in trouble</b> ; a Member requires immediate help or assistance.
10-35	<b>Off duty (CAD Specific).</b>
10-36	<b>On duty (CAD Specific).</b>
10-40	<p><b>Possible hit on</b>; category of "hit" is to be specified; E.g.: person, vehicle, property, boat, motor, CNI-CRS file.</p> <p>The CNI-CRS file query may indicate a danger or caution situation by the following codes: "M": mental, "E": escape, "S": suicidal E.g.: "10-40, 10-30, Victor."</p>
10-41	<b>Possible hit now confirmed with Originating Agency.</b> E.g.: "10-41, person."
10-42	<b>Person/Vehicle in Observation/SIP Category</b> must be specified and both queried: E.g.: "10-41, person, 10-42, vehicle."
10-43	<b>Person in Parole Category.</b>
10-44	<b>Person in Charged Category.</b>
10-45	<b>Person in Elopee Category.</b>
10-46	<p><b>Person in Prohibited Category</b>; the specific category must be indicated by as follows: "D": driving, "F": firearms, "L": liquor. E.g.: "10-46, Lima."</p>
10-47	<b>Person in Registered Sex Offender Category.</b>
10-61	<b>Relief period</b> ; mid-shift break.
10-62	<b>Meal period.</b>
10-67	<b>Unauthorized listeners present</b> ; transmissions and conversations must be guarded.
10-68	<b>Breathalyzer operator required.</b>
10-71	<b>Sending complaint to MWS.</b>
10-72	<b>Serious alarm.</b>
10-80	<b>The person being queried has a record of Violence.</b>
10-81	<b>The person being queried has a record of Robbery.</b>
10-82	<b>The person being queried has a record of Offensive Weapon.</b>
10-83	<b>The person being queried has a record of B &amp; E.</b>
10-84	<b>The person being queried has a record of Theft.</b>
10-85	<b>The person being queried has a record of Drugs.</b>
10-86	<b>The person being queried has a record of Fraud.</b>
10-87	<b>The person being queried has a record of Sex.</b>
10-88	<b>The person being queried has a record of Other Criminal Code.</b>