



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 Administrative Services

POLICY

Definitions

Chief Officer – The Transit Police Chief Officer or delegate.

Use of Force Issue Equipment – Use of force tools issued by Transit Police to its Members (as set out in policy and which differs for Designated Constables and Designated Law Enforcement Officers).

Member – Designated Constables (all ranks), Deputy Chief Officers, the Chief Officer and Designated Law Enforcement Officers of the Transit Police.

Police Act – The BC Police Act, RSBC, 1996, c.367, and the regulations thereto, including the *Designated Policing and Law Enforcement Units Complaints Regulation*, B.C. Reg. 230/2022, 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 (Designated Policing Unit and Designated Law Enforcement Unit).

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 (civilian professionals and Members).

General

3. The Transit Police will establish a professional standards function to manage the administrative processes and investigation of complaints involving 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 professionals 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 Inspector Investigations, 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 Inspector Investigations 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.)

[Refer also to Transit Police policy chapter [AB230 – Fitness for Duty.](#)]

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 Transit Police 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 Administrative 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.

[Refer also to Transit Police policy chapters [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]

Collective Agreement

Designated Policing and Law Enforcement Units Complaints Regulation, B.C. Reg. 230/2022

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