

Section 1.0 – Use of Force	Page 1 of 3
Sub Section 1.7 – Reporting and Investigations	
Subject 1.7.1 – Reporting and Investigation Following the Use of Weapons	Effective: January 30, 2012 Revised effective: February 1, 2015

Definitions

"Director" - the director of police services referred to in section 39 (1) of the *Police Act*.

"Conducted energy weapon" or "CEW" – a weapon designed to use a conducted electrical current in order to incapacitate a person, or to generate compliance through pain.

"Intermediate weapon" – a weapon whose normal use is not intended or likely to cause serious injury or death. Impact weapons, aerosols and conducted energy weapons fall within this category. Intermediate weapons may also be referred to as less-lethal weapons.

"Firearm" – a firearm as defined in section 2 of the *Criminal Code* (Canada).

"Officer" - a constable appointed under the *Police Act* or an enforcement officer appointed under s. 18.1 of the *Police Act*.

Application

For the purpose of Standards (1), (2), and (6) below, a discharge does not include discharge of the firearm in accordance with the rules of a police force during: training, target practice, testing, assessment, or ordinary firearm maintenance.

Standards

The chief constable, chief officer, or commissioner must:

Discharge of firearm by police officers

- (1) Ensure any officer who discharges a firearm while on duty notifies their immediate supervisor of the discharge and the circumstances surrounding the discharge.
- (2) Ensure the supervisor notified under Standard (1) investigates the reason for the discharge and submits a report to the chief constable, chief officer, or commanding officer.

Use of weapons by police officers resulting in death or injury

- (3) Ensure that, if an officer discharges a firearm and a person is killed or injured as a result, the officer immediately surrenders the firearm for investigative purposes.
- (4) Ensure that, if a person is killed or injured as a result of the discharge of a firearm or proximate to the use of an intermediate weapon by an officer, the following persons are notified:
 - (a) The director; and
 - (b) If responsible for a municipal police force, a designated policing unit, or a designated law enforcement unit, the chair of the board.

The chair of the board:

- (5) May, on receiving a notification under Standard (4), make any further inquiries into the incident that the chair considers necessary.

The chief constable, chief officer, or commissioner must:

Use of weapons by chief constable or chief officer

- (6) Submit a report to the chair of the board if he or she discharges a firearm while on duty.
- (7) Immediately surrender his or her firearm for ballistic testing if he or she discharges a firearm and a person is killed or injured as a result.
- (8) Promptly notify the chair of the police board and the director if a person is injured or killed as a result of the discharge of his or her firearm or proximate to his or her use of an intermediate weapon.

The chair of the board:

- (9) May make inquiries into an incident under Standards (6) or (8) above that the chair considers necessary.

The chief constable, chief officer, or commissioner must:

Use-of-force report

- (10) Submit to the director at the end of each calendar year, and at any time on the request of the director, a statistical report containing the information requested by the director about the use of force in the police force.

Policies and procedures

(11) Ensure policies and procedures are consistent with these *BC Provincial Policing Standards*.

NOTE: These BC Provincial Policing Standards replace the Police Act Use of Force Regulation, s.2, 6, 7, 8, and 12.