

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



Title: Peace Officer: Use of Defensive Baton	Policy No.: 17-01
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Legislation Reference:	Peace Officer Ministerial Regulations Act
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Purpose:	<p>Smoky Lake County recognizes there are circumstances where a Peace Officer may need to use a defensive baton to facilitate a defensive position in the execution of his/her duties.</p> <p>Subject to the provisions of this policy and in accordance with the Peace Officer Act, Peace Officer Regulations and Peace Officer Ministerial Regulations, the Peace Officer is authorized the use of a defensive baton.</p>
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Policy Statement and Guidelines:

1. QUALIFICATIONS

- 1.1 The issue of a defensive baton to a Peace Officer is conditional upon:
 - 1.1.1 Authorization of his/her Appointment as Peace Officer issued by the Alberta Solicitor General.
 - 1.1.2 Successful completion of a training course on a use of force model recognized by the Public Security Division.
 - 1.1.3 All Peace Officers certified in the use of the defensive baton (including the department sanctioned Incident Management Intervention Model) will be re-certified within 36 months (or sooner if desired by authorized employer) by a qualified instructor.

2. APPROVED USES

- 2.1 The defensive baton must only be used as a defensive tool and should not be applied to facilitate an arrest unless other means are not available.
- 2.2 A defensive baton may be utilized to control an attack or threat of an attack from any animals.

3. PROCEDURES

- 3.1 All Peace Officers certified in the use of the baton will be required to wear a baton while on duty.
- 3.2 The baton will be worn in the issue scabbard.
- 3.3 The baton will be deployed only in the prescribed manner, according to an Incident Management Intervention Model or approved Use of Force Model.

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Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
3.4	Peace Officer who is carrying authorized defensive baton must check the baton on a weekly basis for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.4.1 Wear and tear on the foam grip. 3.4.2 Bent shaft and stress fractures. 3.4.3 Abrasions on the tip or a loose tip. 3.4.4 Secure butt cap.
3.5	May make minor adjustments to the retaining clip and O-ring to ensure the proper opening and closing capabilities.
3.6	Report any defective baton requiring repair or replacement immediately to the Chief Administrative Officer. Note: This includes a bent shaft, wear and tear on the handle, and sharp abrasions on the tip.
3.7	Immediately report any incident in which the baton was used as a means of force to the Chief Administrative Officer on an Incident Report Form and to the Public Security Division.
3.8	Ensure that when off-duty, the defensive baton is secured in a locked cabinet within the office. If a Peace Officer goes off shift at their residence, the defensive baton must be secured within a locked cabinet.
4.	REPORT ON USE
4.1	Peace Officer involved in an occurrence where a defensive baton was utilized shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1.1 Complete an Incident Report as per Policy 02-09: Peace Officer: Human Relations Records - Schedule "B": Incident Report Form, outlining the circumstances surrounding the use of the defensive baton and provide a copy to the Public Security Division of the Solicitor General. 4.1.2 Notify the Chief Administrative Officer in writing, of the circumstances surrounding the use of the defensive baton.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	September 23, 2010	# 889-10 - Page # 9452
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