

COUNTY OF WETASKIWIN NO. 10 Municipal Policy & Procedures Manual	FUNCTION: 2000 PROTECTIVE SERVICES
	SECTION: 2100 COMMUNITY PEACE OFFICERS

USE OF FIREARMS POLICY #2101

POLICY STATEMENT

The Council of the County of Wetaskiwin recognizes the need for the Community Peace Officers to carry firearms in the County vehicles while on duty for the primary purpose of using these firearms in situations such as killing of an animal which has been badly injured and rendered helpless and should be destroyed to end its suffering.

County Council approved a resolution at its meeting held Monday, September 11th, 1989 to make application to the Alberta Solicitor General to permit the Community Peace Officers to carry firearms in their vehicles to be used primarily for humane reasons.

PROCEDURES

1. The County may issue firearms and ammunition to Community Peace Officers who may be required to destroy dangerous or injured animals.
 - a) The firearm is of the 12 gauge calibre.
 - b) The firearm has been inspected and approved by a certified Gunsmith.
 - c) The firearm is not semi-automatic.
 - d) The employee is eligible to be issued a firearm.

2. The issue of any firearm to an employee is conditional upon:
 - a) satisfactorily completing a training course approved by the Solicitor General's Department;
 - b) the Community Peace Officer successfully qualifying in the use of that firearm in accordance with this policy.
 - c) approval from the Law Enforcement Division of the Solicitor General's Department.

AMMUNITION

3. No ammunition other than factory load ammunition shall be used by employees during the course of their duties.

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4. The Assistant Chief Administrative Officer will be responsible to ensure that there is on hand in the department, at all times, a stock of ammunition adequate to meet any demand.
 - a) Any designated officer to whom a firearm is issued will be responsible to ensure that he has at his disposal, at all times, a stock of ammunition adequate to meet his requirement for the execution of his responsibilities.

STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION

5. When firearms and/or ammunition are in the office:
 - a) firearms will be stored in a locked cabinet or room;
 - b) ammunition will be stored in a locked cabinet or room separate from the firearms.
6. When firearms and/or ammunition are transported in a vehicle they shall be stored within a locked case as follows:
 - a) the firearm shall be unloaded;
 - b) the ammunition shall be in a separate compartment within the said case.

INSPECTION

7. Any employee to whom a firearm has been issued will, upon request of the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, produce the firearm for inspection.
8. The Assistant Chief Administrative Officer will arrange for the annual inspection of all firearms being utilized.
 - a) Inspection will be conducted to determine whether or not the firearm is being maintained in a safe, clean and serviceable manner.
 - b) Following inspection, the condition and the apparent manner of maintenance of the firearm shall be recorded.

REPORT OF DISCHARGES

9. Any Community Peace Officer who discharges a firearm while on duty shall;
 - a) complete a standard occurrence report outlining the circumstances under which the firearm was used.

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RECALL OF FIREARMS

10. An issued firearm may be removed from an employee's possession when:
- a) the employee is found to have used a firearm in a manner which is irresponsible or unsafe;
 - b) an inspection of his firearm reveals that it is not being maintained in a safe, clean and serviceable manner.
11. When a firearm has been removed from an employee's possession, as per Section 12, the firearm will not be returned to him until the circumstances which resulted in such action being taken have been reviewed by a Review Panel made up of the County Administrator, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, and Director of Finance.
- a) Upon reviewing the circumstances of a particular case, the Panel shall recommend for or against the re-issue of the firearm.
 - b) The Panel may recommend conditions which must be met by the employee before a firearm is re-issued.

QUALIFICATION

12. All County employed Community Peace Officers will be required to undergo annual firearm testing in accordance with R.C.M.P. Standards.

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