



# County of Lethbridge Policy Handbook

**EFFECTIVE:** September 20, 2012      **SECTION:** 200 NO. 207 Page 1 of 2  
**APPROVED BY:** County Council      **SUBJECT:** Community Peace Officer  
- OC Spray  
**REVISED DATE:**

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Peace Officers who have successfully completed the OC Spray training course are authorized to carry and use OC Spray while on duty if authority appears on their peace officer appointment.

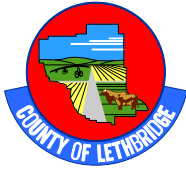
## **STANDARDS**

1. A peace officer's appointment authorizes him/her to be in possession of OC Spray only for the purpose of their duty or employment and does not extend to off-duty activities.
2. When OC Spray has been deployed and the subject(s) has been brought under control, decontamination procedures will be commenced as soon as practical.
3. OC Spray shall only be carried by Peace Officers while on duty.
4. The Unit Supervisor or designate will maintain a current list of all Peace Officers who have completed the OC Spray course and are authorized to carry and use it.
5. OC spray as defined in Section 4(1)(a) of the Peace Officer Regulation shall not exceed a strength of 1.33% Major Capsaicinoids.

## **PROCEDURES**

1. A Peace Officer authorized to carry and use OC Spray:
  - a) informs the Supervisor whenever possible prior to using OC Spray;
  - b) when a tactical advantage is not lost, advises the potential target(s) that OC Spray may be used if their behavior remains uncontrollable;
  - c) monitors the target(s) and seek medical assistance if the effects of the OC Spray persists after one (1) hour;
  - d) Submits an Incident Report to the Supervisor and to the Public Security Department on the approved form describing the incident and reasons for utilizing the OC Spray.

NOTE: This also includes any accidental OC spray discharges.



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- e) ensure that when off-duty, the OC Spray is secured in a locked cabinet within the office. If a peace officer goes off shift at their residence, the OC spray must be secured within a locked cabinet.
2. The Supervisor:
- a) reports to the area, takes charge of the incident and approves the use of OC Spray, if necessary;
  - b) ensures all targets affected by the OC Spray are taken to an area which is secure and removed from contamination and provides for decontamination;
  - c) reviews, comments and submits the detailed Incident Report to the authorized employer.
  - d) ensures all Peace Officers required to carry OC Spray are re-certified every 36 months (sooner if desired by the authorized employer).

*Reference: Public Security Peace Officer Program, Policy and Procedures Manual, February 2012, Appendix S*