

**FORWARDED ON BEHALF
OF
SILVER COMMAND
(INSPECTOR IAN UPTON)**

**To: All VPD Employees - Civilian and Sworn
COVID-19 Update: May 14, 2020**

The following will provide an update on key developments and reminders for May 14, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the VPD's response remains fluid and adaptive, it is important that all VPD staff continue to follow the developing situation on a daily basis.

Key Updates for May 14, 2020

- Members will begin to receive LENS with new trial dates and members may be contacted to have telephone interviews with Crown Counsel.
- With new trial dates being set, there may be conflicts with Annual Leave and CTO Leave. Members with leave conflicts should notify the Document Services Unit immediately.

Operational Considerations

As an ongoing reminder, the VPD will not be taking the lead on any enforcement action regarding Federal, Provincial, and Municipal COVID-19 related orders. **Any enforcement action in relation to COVID-19 orders requires Car 10 approval.**

Telephone Interviews with Crown

Members are reminded that court procedures have changed to adhere to physical distancing whenever possible. With the gradual re-opening of the Provincial and Federal courts, members will begin to receive LENS with new trial dates and advanced interview dates with Crown Counsel. In order to adhere to physical distancing guidelines, members may be contacted to have telephone interviews with Crown Counsel and should be mindful of the following:

- The courts have been asked to issue LENS to members for all phone interviews and to provide their Crown phone number to the member to call. Members do not have to provide Crown with their personal cell numbers.
- The VPD has requested that, whenever possible, Crown schedule advanced interviews while the member is on-duty. Off-duty phone interviews should only occur on an urgent basis and must be supported by a LENS issued via Document Services Unit (DSU).
- In lieu of obtaining a crown signature on a LENS, members submitting claims for all off-duty phone interviews will be asked to obtain an email from the Crown after conducting the interview as confirmation and to attach that to their LENS.

NOTE: Members should not be directed by an individual Crown to provide testimony via video until the VPD has confirmed a viable process. If a member is contacted to participate in a virtual testimony,

please forward the details to Inspector Lisa Byrne (lisa.byrne@vpd.ca) prior to agreeing to engage in video testimony.

Trial date conflicts with annual leave

As the courts are beginning to reschedule court dates members will begin to receive LENS. Any member who receives a LENS which falls during their approved Annual or CTO Leave should immediately notify the Document Services Unit (DSU) by returning the original notification with the member's Annual Leave clearly indicated on the notification.

- If contacted directly by Crown, members should forward the request to DSU and are reminded they cannot attend court while on annual leave until such attendance is confirmed with the Sergeant i/c DSU.
- The DSU will attempt to deconflict trial dates with the member's leave. Members should be mindful that there is no guarantee of a resolution and the member may have to attend court while on leave. In these cases the member will be compensated as per the collective agreement.

NOTE: Any Annual Leave dates changed after the sign up period is not protected, as per the collective agreement. Members will be expected to attend court as notified and will not receive the higher rate of compensation.

Health and Wellness

CISM/Peer Support

Members are reminded that if they require support during the COVID-19 crisis they can contact CISM/Peer Support and *Vancouver Beyond the Blue*. Information on these services and other supports can be found on the COVID-19 intranet website and on VPDemerg.ca.

Accessing Key COVID-19 Information

From your desk:	VPD's CoVID-19 Information & Updates webpage via the Intranet http://references.sharepoint01.vpd.bc.ca/COVID19/default.aspx
From your email:	Daily Situation Reports distributed to your VPD email address
From the road:	VPD GO 2020-54066 accessible by MDT
From home or cell:	Go to VPDemerg.ca . Password: Nitro

Chris Berda
Sgt. 2048
Information Officer
Pandemic Working Group / DOC
Vancouver Police Department
Desk: 604-717-9502