

# Police Identity Management Act (PIMA)

## 1. GENERAL

- A. The Police Identity Management Act (PIMA) prohibits the use, possession, sale, or reproduction of police-issued items by or for others. It prohibits the sale of marked police vehicles and restricts possession of police vehicle decals and police vehicle equipment to authorized individuals.
- B. The objective of this Nova Scotia legislation is to reduce the likelihood of someone with criminal intent acquiring items that could be used to impersonate a police officer. It is a criminal offence under the Criminal Code of Canada to impersonate a police officer no matter the article used.
- C. Police articles (for example, badges, emblems, and crests) and police uniforms that are currently in use by a police agency in Canada, can only be used by those authorized by the act. Only those authorized by the Act can have police-vehicle markings (e.g., decals) and police-vehicle equipment from any time period. Ceremonial uniforms can be owned.
- D. PIMA legislation strikes a balance by permitting possession if the items have been altered while limiting the circulation and availability of police articles. Additionally, it prohibits the possession, sale, use, and fabrication of police vehicle markings to only those authorized (e.g., police officers, legitimate businesses, etc.).

## 2. POLICY

- A. Anyone who owns an item from any police force in Canada can bring it to a local police detachment to have it disposed of by the police.
- B. These item(s) are provided voluntarily and will not be returned to the owner and will be disposed of in accordance with HRP policy and procedure in FOUNDED ABANDONED PROPERTY. The lawful owner is required to sign a property release form upon submission to HRP.
- C. Halifax Regional Police intake of Police articles:
  - i. Retired members relinquishing police articles;
    - 1. Officers shall include a statement in the Property/Evidence Management System, including an entity for the retired member who is turning over the articles and signing the Property/Exhibit Label.

- ii. Relinquished by all citizens;
  1. The seizing member shall conduct a CPIC check on the property to establish if it has been reported as lost or stolen.
    - a. If reported lost or stolen, the member shall notify NCO i/c Property & Evidence to review the file for further follow-up.
    - b. If the property is not lost or stolen, the member shall properly store the item and write a concluding report for its disposal.
  2. Entity details and CPIC queries shall be added to the GO report.

### Procedure

#### D. Versadex/Intake HRP Headquarters:

- i. Retired members and citizens relinquishing items to HRP Headquarters shall be advised to:
  - a. Use the phone in the vestibule to directly connect with Property & Evidence Custodian. If Property & Evidence Custodian is not available, Front-door staff shall receive the property and handle it as above in Section C.
- ii. Versadex Entries:
  - a. Initial and final call types for intake of Police articles shall be:
    - i. OTPS – Other Provincial Statutes
  - b. General Operations Report (GO)
    - i. UCR – 8222- Assist Other Agency – Police
  - c. Property/Evidence management Screen
    - i. Item status – 1 - Other

### 3. DEFINITIONS

TBA

<b>Effective Date of Last Revision</b>	May 17, 2022
<b>Policy Sponsor</b>	Deputy Chief, Operations

**By Order Of:**



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**Dan Kinsella**  
**Chief of Police**

