

70.0 DETAINEE TRANSPORTATION

Purpose: Guidelines to insure safety and security during transports

70.1 Transport Operations

70.1.1 Search Prior to Transport

Prior to transporting arrestee, deputy will search arrestee for weapons or contraband.

Prior to transport to court, Detention Center Personnel will search all detainees scheduled to appear in court. Transporting deputies will access the Detention Center in the transport vehicle via the Vehicular Sally Port.

70.1.2 Security Inspection of Transporting Vehicle

Deputies will conduct an examination of the inside of your vehicle prior to the transport of an arrestee or detainee for contraband. Deputies will also assure their vehicle is in good operating condition and there is no damage to the inside of their vehicle. After transporting an arrestee or detainee the deputy's vehicle will again be searched for contraband or damage. The child safety locking mechanism shall be disabled.

Quarterly, all vehicles will be inventoried and inspected by a supervisor for safety and issued equipment. If any discrepancies are noted, the Division Commander or his designee will be notified and if necessary an appropriate written report completed.

70.1.3 Transport Vehicles without Safety Barriers

Generally, vehicles without safety barriers will not be used for transport of detainees. Only in emergency situations and when no other vehicle equipped with a safety barrier is available will a vehicle without a safety barrier be used to transport detainees. If a vehicle has to be used that does not have a safety barrier, the prisoner will not be seated behind the driver.

70.1.5 Detainee Communications

During transport operations, detainees will not be permitted to communicate or have contact with family, attorneys or other nonessential persons. These communications will be conducted at other appropriate locations and times.

70.1.7 Escape During Transport

If an escape occurs during transport, the following action will be taken:

A. Notifications

1. The ECC and Patrol Duty Officer will be notified of the location, escapee description, direction of travel and any other information available. If additional detainees are in custody in the transport vehicle, one deputy will remain with the vehicle to secure those inmates.
2. The Sheriff, Judicial Commander and Criminal Investigations Supervisor will be notified immediately.
3. The ECC will broadcast a look out with pertinent information and description to all units via the radio and to make the appropriate MILES/NCIC entry. This information will also be given to the Hagerstown City Police, Maryland State Police, Detention Center Duty Officer and any other agency as necessary.

B. Reports

The transport deputy(ies) will complete a Criminal Investigation Report and forward it to the Division Commander or his designee prior to his/her end of duty day.

C. Additional Actions

1. The Division Commander will use resources, as necessary, to perform a search commensurate with available information and time lapse since the escape. The Division Commander will be responsible for initiating the search.
2. Investigation of escapes and escape attempts will be assigned to the Criminal Investigations Unit.

70.1.8 Duty to Notify In the Event of an Unusual Circumstance

Any unusual information or escape risk will be documented on the Court Disposition Form and verbally relayed to Detention Center Booking staff upon arrival at the Detention Center. If the Detention Center has any unusual information or escape risk information, they should relay that information to Transport Deputies and Courthouse Deputies.

70.2 Restraining Devices

70.2.1 Methods in Applying Restraints for Transport

- A. Restraining devices will only be used in their prescribed and intended use.
- B. During normal transport operations, detainees received by the transporting deputy will be secured with handcuffs, wrist to wrist, in a chain formation.

- C. During a single detainee transport, the detainee will be, at a minimum, restrained with handcuffs, behind his back.
- D. Nothing will preclude the transporting deputy from using additional restraints (i.e. leg irons, waist, black box); if in their discretion it would be practical or necessary for safety.
- E. A detainee's legs may be restrained from kick, via a leg restraint. The restraint may go around the legs and out the door of the vehicle.

The leg restraint will not be attached to the handcuffs and a detainee shall not be transported on their stomach with their arms and legs attached in any way.
- F. **At no time will a detainee be "hog tied".**
- G. Segregation inmates received by the transporting deputy from the Washington County Detention Center will be transported with a minimum of handcuffs and leg irons in accordance with Detention Policy.

70.3 Special Transport Situations

70.3.1 Transporting Sick, Injured or Disabled Persons

Circumstances may arise when an individual being transported becomes sick or injured during transport or the detainee is physical disability. If this situation arises while an arrestee or detainee is in custody that requires immediate medical treatment.

The Division Commander or supervisor shall be notified to determine whether to transport the sick or injured person via ambulance or by transport. The Arrestee or Detainee will be restrained; the transporting deputy will use his discretion in the manner in which the detainee is restrained as not to further injure the detainee.

If the person is disabled the deputy's Division Commander or supervisor shall be notified to determine whether the individual will be transported by Sheriff's Office vehicle (car or Detention Division Van) or if a request needs to be made to County Fire Rescue or the County Transit Service for assistance.

If the detainee is committed and is transported to the Meritus Medical Center, the Detention Center will be notified.

If the arrestee or detainee is transported by ambulance, a deputy accompanying the ambulance will determine the appropriate manner in which to secure the detainee so as not to interfere with any treatment by emergency personnel. The deputy in the rear of the ambulance will be armed.

Upon arrival at the Hospital, the accompanying deputy will remain with the detainee to maintain security until relieved by Detention Center Staff or other arrangements are made.

70.3.3 Special Transport Situations

The Sheriff Office will not transport detainees to any other function other than scheduled court proceedings except as may be directed by the court (e.g. secure transports).

If the court directs the Sheriff's Office to transport an inmate to a special event, the Judicial Division Commander will coordinate the transport with the Detention Division Commander.

There will be a protective sweep of the room and / or building prior to the inmate's arrival at the location. In coordination between the two Divisions the detainee will be moved and at the conclusion of the proceedings will be returned to the Detention Divisions' custody.

70.3.4 Use of Mechanical Restraints on Pregnant Inmates

When transporting an inmate who is either pregnant or in postpartum Recovery, a physical restraint may be used to ensure the safety and security of the inmate, the staff, other inmates or the public in general.

The physical restraint shall be the least restrictive available and does not include waist or leg restraints. Medical transportation notes will reflect that restraints were/were not used on the inmate. The use of restraints shall be an individualized decision determined by the security needs of the particular inmate on a case-by-case basis.

If medical staff treating the inmate for her pregnancy or postpartum recovery requests that physical restraints not be used, the deputy shall immediately remove the restraint(s).

70.4 Transport Equipment

70.4.1 Vehicles Used for Transports Will Have a Safety Barrier

Departmental vehicles used primarily for transporting prisoners will have a safety barrier between the driver's compartment and the rear passenger compartment.

70.4.2 Modification of Transport Vehicle to Prevent Unauthorized Departure

Vehicles used primarily for prisoner transport will have the rear seat windows and doors modified to prevent operation from within. This is to minimize the opportunity for the prisoner to exit from the rear seat compartment.

70.5 Documentation

70.5.1 Identification and Documentation of Person Being Transported

Detainees transported by the Judicial Division will only be transported to and from the Washington County Detention Center, and the Circuit Court for Washington County, unless directed by court.

- A. Detainees received from the Detention Center will be positively identified by a booking photograph provided on the Court Disposition Form and / or other documented identifying features (i.e. tattoos, height, weight, etc.).
- B. Court Disposition Form will accompany the detainee being transported.
- C. Court Disposition Form will identify any potential risks to include but not limited to:
 - 1. Escape risk
 - 2. Enemies
 - 3. Codefendants
 - 4. Medical conditions
 - 5. Segregation type and status

70.6 Transporting a Person of the Opposite Sex

When transporting a person of the opposite sex of transporting deputy, the transporting deputy will notify dispatch of number of persons being transported as well as the starting mileage and ending mileage upon arrival at the destination.