

COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT



General Order 70: Detainee Transportation

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Definitions

1. Detainee

A person in the custody of agency personnel and whose freedom of movement is at the will of agency personnel.

70.1 Transport Operations

70.1.1 Pre-Transport Detainee Searches

- A. Prior to agency personnel transporting a detainee, the transporting personnel shall conduct a thorough search of the detainee for weapons and contraband.
- B. Transporting personnel should not assume that someone else searched the detainee or that another personnel's search of the detainee was sufficient.
- C. Strip searches and body cavity searches are governed by General Order 1.2.8.

70.1.2 Searching Transport Vehicles

- A. Prior to and after agency personnel transports a detainee, the transporting personnel shall examine their patrol vehicle to make certain that no weapons or contraband are present in the area where a detainee will be and was transported.
- B. At the beginning of each shift, agency personnel equipped with a vehicle that may be utilized to transport a detainee will ensure that the vehicle is capable of transporting detainees. If it is discovered that such a vehicle is not capable of transporting detainees, it should be reported in accordance with General Order 17.

70.1.6 Procedures, Transport Destination

These procedures describe the actions that agency personnel shall take when arriving at the transport destination with a detainee.

- A. When arriving at a jail or detention center with a detainee, agency personnel shall secure their firearm(s) in the trunk or other lock box within their vehicle, or in a lock box provided by the receiving agency. At all other locations officers are not required to remove their firearm.
- B. When arriving at a jail or detention center with a detainee, agency personnel should allow the receiving agency's staff to remove the restraints, or personally remove the restraints from the transported detainee if the receiving agency approves the removal of the restraints. At all other locations agency personnel will have the discretion to determine whether the circumstances are appropriate for removal of restraints.

- C. Agency personnel shall complete and deliver all necessary and proper documentation to the receiving personnel of the receiving agency, as required by the receiving agency.
- D. Agency personnel shall notify the receiving agency personnel of any potential medical or security risks. In addition, General Order 4 requires remanding officers to notify the jail staff if a person being remanded was exposed to an ECD or a chemical agent.
- E. Anytime agency personnel transfers custody of a detainee to another facility, he/she shall document the transfer of custody in a written report.

70.1.7 Procedures, Escape

If at any time during the transportation of a detainee, the detainee escapes from custody, the following procedures shall be followed:

A. Persons to be notified

1. If the escape occurs within Bartholomew County, the agency personnel in control of the detainee shall immediately notify the Bartholomew County Emergency Operations Center of the location of escape, the escapee's direction of travel, description, and any other pertinent information, so that the information can be relayed to other officers and surrounding agencies.
2. If the escape occurs in another jurisdiction, the agency personnel in control of the detainee shall immediately notify the appropriate agencies of the location of escape, the escapee's direction of travel, description, and any other pertinent information.
3. The agency personnel shall notify his/her supervisor, who will be responsible for determining any other appropriate notifications.

B. The agency personnel shall complete a detailed written report describing the incident and circumstances contributing to the escape. This report should be submitted to the on-duty supervisor before the agency personnel ends his/her tour of duty.

C. Further Actions to be Taken

1. The agency personnel in control of the detainee shall immediately attempt to re-capture the escapee.
2. Agency personnel may receive disciplinary action if it is discovered that the escape was due to carelessness or neglect on the officer's part, while handling the detainee.

70.1.8 Notify Court of Security Risk

So that receiving agencies can take appropriate actions, if transporting agency personnel learns that a detainee to be transported to another agency is considered an unusual security risk, he/she shall, if practical, notify the receiving agency before arrival at the agency. Unusual security risks include, but are not limited to, combativeness, escape risk, suicide potential, universal precautions, etc.

70.2 Restraining Devices

70.2.1 Detainee Restraint Methods

- A. All detainees that are being transported shall be handcuffed with the detainee's hands behind their back, and the handcuffs double-locked. However, agency personnel will have the discretion not to handcuff or to handcuff in an alternative manner on sick, injured or pregnant persons. This discretion also includes persons that cannot be physically secured by handcuffing behind their back due to any other factors. The degree of sickness, injury, physical immobility, disability or missing limbs should be contributing factors in the officer's decision.
- B. No detainee is to be handcuffed to any other person or to agency personnel during transport.
- C. When a detainee is to be transported by vehicle over an extended period of time and distance, the transporting agency personnel shall take into consideration detainee comfort along with security and safety. Items such as leg restraints and/or transport belts may be utilized.
- D. A detainee, who exhibits violent or erratic behavior, may be restrained by items such as leg restraints, transport belts, hobble restraints, etc. However, if restraints in addition to handcuffs are used, agency personnel should take extra precautions to observe for and prevent positional asphyxiation.

70.4 Transport Equipment

70.4.2 Rear Compartment Modifications

Detainees transported in department vehicles should be seated in the rear seat of the vehicle. Department vehicles used to transport detainees should have a physical barrier between the front and rear seats that have windows and doors in the rear compartment that are only operable with the consent of the driver.

Acceptance by Columbus Police Department Captain's Board:

Date: _____

Jonathan L. Rohde, Chief

Attest:

Matthew Todd Harry, Deputy Chief

Sandy LaBarbera, Chief's Secretary

Michael Richardson, Uniform Captain

Brian Wilder, Administrative Captain

Acceptance by Columbus Board of Public Works and Safety:

Date: _____

Jim Lienhoop, Mayor

Attest:

Mary Ferdon, Member

Luann Welmer, Clerk-Treasurer

John Pickett, Member

Jim Strietelmeier, Member


Brenda Sullivan, Member

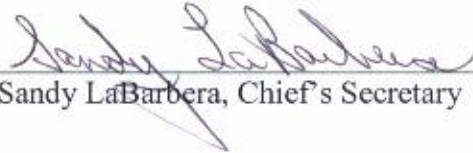
Acceptance by Columbus Police Department Captain's Board:


Date: 12-18-2017


Jonathan L. Rohde, Chief

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Matthew Todd Harry, Deputy Chief

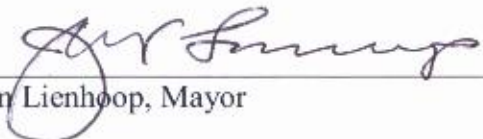

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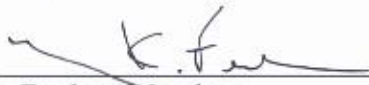

Brian Wilder, Administrative Captain

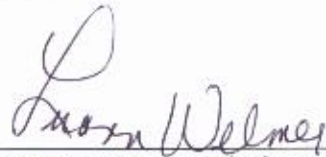
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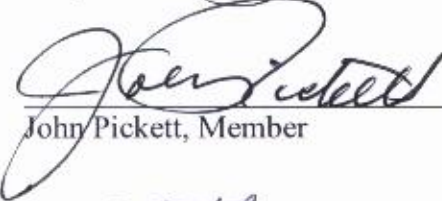
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Jim Lienhoop, Mayor

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