



# MASS ARRESTS

**INDEX CODE: 2305**  
**EFFECTIVE DATE: 07-24-20**

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## **I. DEFINITION – MASS ARREST**

The arrest of a number of people which exceeds the capability of assigned staffing for a geographic area. Mass arrests cannot be accomplished practically with standard arrest procedures and require a specialized response. A mass arrest is most often associated with an unlawful assembly that constitutes a breach of the peace or any assembly where there is imminent danger of collective violence, destruction of property or other unlawful acts. Mass arrests may also be a result of targeted police investigations where a large number of arrests are expected.

## **II. MASS ARREST KITS**

Each district has been provided with “mass arrest kits” that are to be used in the event of mass arrest situations. The kits are stocked with the items listed in Appendix A of the Index Code. Each district commander is responsible for assigning administrative responsibility for the equipment stored in the kit and ensuring that the kit is delivered to the scene where mass arrests are anticipated.

## **III. MASS ARREST PROCEDURES**

The Incident Commander must assess the potential for mass arrests. If the arrest of large numbers of people appears likely, the Incident Commander will appoint a ranking officer to coordinate and arrange for the following activities:

### **A. Prisoner Restraint and Removal**

Flex-cuffs will be used in place of handcuffs for temporary prisoner restraint. Unusually violent prisoners will be subdued and restrained through the use of established procedures, with handcuffs and leg shackles. Prisoners who passively resist efforts to remove them will be transported on cots.

### **B. Identifying, Processing and Booking Arrestees; Evidence Collection**

1. A sufficient number of Evidence Technicians will be summoned to the staging area and will be available for evidence collection duties as directed by the Incident Commander or designee.

2. Two digital photographs will be taken of the face of each arrestee and arresting officer, using the mass arrest camera and printer kit, and any available identification will be obtained from each arrestee, prior to transporting them from the scene. One photo will be retained by the arresting officer, and one photo and all prisoner identification will accompany the arrestee to *their destination*. Normal security precautions will be followed as with any arrest situation, to ensure the safety of all parties.

### **C. Transportation**

If the number of arrestees exceeds transportation capacity, *a supervisor will request* additional vehicles from the Anne Arundel County Department of Detention Facilities *and the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office*. This request will be coordinated with the EOC, if activated. If it becomes necessary to transport prisoners in non-secure vehicles such as buses, a police escort will accompany the vehicle. One police car will lead the escort, and one

police car will follow the transportation vehicle. A sufficient number of officers will ride on the transport vehicles to assure the safety of the prisoners and the operator.

**D. Detention**

If the number of people arrested exceeds the capacity of *the Anne Arundel County Central Holding and Processing Center (CHPC) or the* Police Department *Temporary Detention* facilities, Communications will contact the Ordnance Road Correctional Center (ORCC) Shift Supervisor and request that he or she open the gymnasium located at the ORCC to be used as a temporary detention area. Arrestees will be transported for booking and processing as facilities become available. A police sergeant and a squad of officers will be assigned to the Correctional Center to ensure security of the facility.

**E. Arrest and Custody of Juveniles**

Any arrests of juveniles will be in accordance with Index Code 1700.

**F. Media Relations & Public Information**

A representative of the Media Relations Office will be summoned to the scene to coordinate media-related activities.

**G. Food, Water, and Sanitary Facilities**

The designated officer must ensure the adequate food, water, and sanitary facilities are available for the police officers involved in the mass arrest situation, and for the persons arrested. Communications will be requested to alert the Anne Arundel Alarmers, and arrangements for purchase of large quantities of fast food items will be arranged by the *Fiscal Management Section*.

**H. Defense Counsel Visits**

Visits will be permitted at Police Department district stations as circumstances warrant, subject to approval by the ranking officer in the station, and consistent with current policy.

**I. Medical Treatment**

The Fire Department will be requested to provide on-scene emergency medical support. If an arrestee is injured or becomes ill, he or she will be transported to a medical facility by ambulance, accompanied by a police officer, according to existing policy. Prisoner health and safety will be a primary concern of all officers.

**J. Interagency Support**

1. To the extent needed and permitted by mutual aid agreement, additional resources may be requested from the Maryland State Police, followed by the police departments of Baltimore County and Howard County. If the EOC is activated, such requests should be directed through it; otherwise, Communications is responsible for making the requests.

2. The Ordnance Road Correctional Center Shift Supervisor will be requested to prepare for large numbers of incoming prisoners.

3. Depending on the nature and duration of the emergency, the Incident Commander may request activation of the EOC, in order to coordinate inter-agency support.

**K. Court and Prosecutorial Liaison**

1. The District Court commissioners on duty will be notified that mass arrests are occurring. An approximate number of arrestees should be related to the commissioners if known. The decision to call in additional commissioners rests with the supervising commissioner.

2. Arresting officers are responsible for providing prosecutors with a pretrial briefing on each case, according to existing practice in District Court prosecutions. If circumstances cause deviations from this procedure, specific instructions will be announced in advance of the scheduled trial dates.

**L. Security**

The Incident Commander will ensure that a sufficient number of officers are assigned to the detail to assure the security of police facilities and equipment, civilian property in the area, and all arrested prisoners.

**IV. PROPONENT UNIT:** Bureau of Patrol.

**V. CANCELLATION:** This directive cancels Index Code 2305, dated *12-05-14*.