
CHAMPAIGN POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICY and PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 70.2

SUBJECT: RESTRAINING DEVICES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/09

REVISED DATE: 05/28/24

REFERENCE ILEAP: OPR.07.01
 OPR.08.01

INDEX AS:

70.2.1 RESTRAINT DURING TRANSPORT
70.2.2 PROHIBITED ACTIONS

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the use of restraining devices during the transport of detained persons and for the use of restraining devices when transporting persons experiencing a mental health crisis.

DEFINITIONS:

Handcuffs: Commercially produced chain link or hinged cuffs that can be double-locked and are designed to restrain a person's arms.

Disposable Flex Cuffs: Commercially produced plastic flexible band cuff with a one-way locking system.

Hobbles: Commercially produced nylon restraints are designed to restrain a person's feet, legs, or arms.

Hog-tying: A person is handcuffed behind their back, and a leg hobble or similar restraint device is applied to their ankles. The handcuffs are then connected to the leg restraint device, and the person is bent backward by pulling the feet closer to the hands.

Leg Shackles/Cuffs: Leg shackles are extra-large cuffs with an extended connecting chain between them used to restrict movement and walking capabilities.

Spit Hood: A disposable paper and mesh breathable hood used to prevent biting and spitting by a person.

POLICY:

70.2.1 RESTRAINT DURING TRANSPORT

A. Handcuffing:

1. An officer making a full-custody arrest shall handcuff the person arrested, so long as necessary, to ensure continued custody and the safety of others.
2. Whenever possible, persons should be handcuffed behind their back with their palms pointed out.

3. Whenever reasonable, once a person has been subdued and handcuffed, the handcuffs shall be checked for proper fit, ensuring they are not too tight around the wrists and are double-locked.
4. Restraint devices may be applied to the wrists with hands positioned in front of a detained person in some circumstances, such as when the person is:
 - a. Physically incapable of placing their hands behind their back, or
 - b. Physically handicapped, or
 - c. Sick or injured to the extent that placing their hands behind their back would be impractical.
 - d. Being transported long distance.

B. Leg Restraints:

1. The purpose of leg restraints is to further secure a violent or potentially violent subject beyond what is possible using handcuffs or wrist restraints alone.
2. Leg restraints are utilized to minimize the risk of injury to the detained person, officers, other persons, or the destruction of property.
3. Hobbles, disposable flex cuffs, or leg shackles/cuffs may be used in conjunction with other restraining devices. in instances involving high-risk or combative persons.

C. Spit Hoods:

1. Officers may utilize Department-issued disposable spit hoods to prevent biting and spitting by aggressive persons in the following manner:
 - a. When a spit hood is used on an aggressive person, that person shall be continuously and actively monitored by an officer, especially when they are confined to the rear seat of a squad car.
 - b. The detained person should be monitored for breathing difficulty, vomit or other obstructions, and positional complications.
 - c. If OC spray has been used on a person, officers should make every attempt to decontaminate the person prior to applying a spit hood unless the person is actively biting

or spitting at officers or if the decontamination process would unnecessarily subject officers to being bitten, spit upon, or battered.

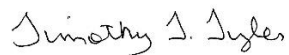
- d. If a person's level of aggression has decreased to the point where an officer feels removal of the spit hood is reasonable and appropriate, then the spit hood should be removed and properly disposed of.
 - i. A used spit hood will likely contain biohazards such as saliva, blood, and mucous from the person and shall be disposed of properly as outlined in POLICY 41.12.1, Infectious Disease (16), by disposing of it in a "Biohazard" labeled bag and then placing the bag in a Biohazard Waste Receptacle.

D. Detained persons are to be kept under observation at all times during transport.

70.2.2 PROHIBITED ACTIONS

- A. Prisoners are not to be transported in a prone position.
- B. Hog-tying a person is prohibited.
- C. No person shall be handcuffed to any stationary object or to any part of the transporting vehicle except in an emergency situation where no other alternative exists. If such a situation arises, documentation of the incident in a report shall be required.

ISSUING AUTHORITY



Timothy T. Tyler
Police Chief
Champaign Police Department