


STRATFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT 	Type of Directive: POLICY and PROCEDURES	UPDATED: 03-22-2021
	Title: Use of Handcuffs	No. 13.7
	ISSUING AUTHORITY: Chief Joseph McNeil	ISSUED: 08-13-2018
	REFERENCE ATTACHMENTS:	REVIEW DATE: ANNUALLY

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for the handcuffing of prisoners.

POLICY:

It shall be the policy of the Stratford Police Department that all prisoners should be handcuffed at the time of arrest for the safety of the officer. The Stratford police Department recognizes that under certain circumstances a prisoner may not be handcuffed for when a reasonable exception exists.

PROCEDURE:

Handcuffing Prisoners

All persons in custody and charged with crimes will be handcuffed in the approved manner as set forth in this section.

It is realized that there will be some very rare exceptions to this order, as in cases where the person in custody is infirm or incapacitated as to be of no threat to the officer or himself.

The Police Officer should obtain the approval of his supervisor if possible but in unusual situations may use his own discretion; however, proper handcuffing will be the general rule.

Prisoners will be handcuffed with the hands in back and the hands back to back. Handcuffs will always be double locked.

Exceptions

Persons whose arms cannot be physically joined in back shall be handcuffed in front, hands back to back, and with cuffs secured with the prisoner’s belt and the buckle located to the rear.

When hands and wrists are too small for the handcuffs the plastic cuffs will be used.

In extradition cases the transport belt and belly chains are recommended.

The proper use of leg restraints are authorized when the prisoners’ legs are a threat to Officer Safety and others while in custody during transport or there is an increased risk of flight during transport or while in custody at an offsite, i.e. hospital.