

Laurel Police Department – General Order
Chapter IV, Section 600, Order 605 – Transport of Arrested Persons
November 22, 2009

4 / 605.5 POLICY

It is the policy of this Department to transport arrestees in the safest and most secure environment possible

4 / 605.10 PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this General Order to set guidelines for the safe and secure transportation of arrested individuals

4 / 605.15 DEFINITIONS

None

4 / 605.20 PROCEDURES

A. INSPECTION OF TRANSPORT VEHICLES

1. Any department vehicles utilized for prisoner transport will be inspected prior to the beginning of a tour of duty to ensure that there is no contraband or weapons hidden within the vehicle. This inspection is also to include inspection of any safety devices related to prisoner transport.
2. Prior to the placement of a prisoner into a transporting vehicle, the transporting officer will check the vehicle for weapons or contraband and will check again upon removing the prisoner from the vehicle. This procedure is for the officer's safety as well as enabling the officer to directly link any illegal items found to the prisoner being transported.

B. GENERAL TRANSPORT GUIDELINES

1. The primary transport vehicle is a marked uniform patrol car.
2. The transport wagon may be used for transporting multiple arrests or if the needs for sight, sound, or sex separation exist.
3. Transports outside the jurisdictional limits of the City require the use of the Transport Wagon or, at the discretion of the on duty supervisor, a caged patrol car.
 - a. The caged patrol car must have the window and door lock mechanisms disengaged
 - b. No more than two (2) prisoners may be transported in a caged patrol car.
 - c. Vehicles assigned to investigative units may be used for transports within and outside of the jurisdictional limits of the City.
4. Transport By One Officer
 - a. When transported by one officer, arrestees shall be placed in the front passenger seat.
 - b. The arrestee shall not be placed in the rear of any vehicle unless the vehicle is equipped with a "cage" and window and door mechanisms have been disengaged.

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- c. The arrestee shall be secured with the seat and shoulder belt.
 - d. The arrestee shall be transported in a sitting position to prevent positional asphyxiation.
 5. Transport by Two Officers
 - a. When two officers are transporting, the arrestee will be placed in the front passenger seat and the second officer will occupy the rear seat behind the prisoner.
 - b. If necessary, a second arrestee may occupy the right rear passenger seat and the second officer will sit behind the driver.
 - c. When more than two arrestees must be transported, additional officers or the transport wagon will be used.
 - d. An officer will not transport more than two arrestees in a marked police car.
 6. When possible, arrestees will be transported by officers of the same sex.
 7. Juveniles and adults shall not be transported in the same vehicle unless the arrests were from the same incident.
 8. Juvenile status offenders and non-offenders will be transported separately from juvenile delinquent offenders and adult prisoners.
 9. When transporting an arrestee the transporting officer shall advise communications
 - a. Beginning mileage and location
 - b. Arrival mileage and location.
 10. During a prisoner transport, the officer shall maintain visual contact with the arrestee and shall only take emergency police action during the transport in instances requiring immediate attention. This only includes instances that occur in the officer's presence.
 11. Emergency response with an arrestee in the transporting vehicle is prohibited.
 12. Arrestees are not permitted to converse with attorneys or anyone else not involved in transporting the arrestee during the transport.
- C. TRANSPORTING SICK AND/OR INJURED ARRESTEES
1. When an arrestee being transported is ill, displays bizarre behavior, has obvious injuries, or the officer believes or observes that the arrestee has entered any non food substance into their body just prior to arrest, the prisoner will be immediately transported to Laurel Regional Hospital for treatment.
 2. If it is necessary for the arrestee to be transported by ambulance, the officer will follow or ride in the ambulance to the hospital.
 3. Once at the hospital, the officer will guard the arrestee closely in order to prevent opportunities for escape. Visitors and telephone calls for the arrestee while at the hospital are prohibited.

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4. Upon release from the hospital, the transporting officer will obtain written instructions concerning future treatment and medication from the attending physician.
5. The arrestee shall be searched by the transporting officer prior to resuming transport. Refer to 4/602 concerning arrestees admitted to hospitals.

D. ARRESTEE ESCAPE

1. If a prisoner escapes while being transported, the officer shall immediately notify the Communications Section and the appropriate local jurisdiction (if outside the City of Laurel). Notification shall include the escapee's
 - a. Location;
 - b. Direction of travel and means of transportation;
 - c. Name and physical description;
 - d. Any knowledge of possible weapons being used; and
 - e. Charge(s) on which he was held.
2. The officer shall also notify his immediate supervisor and the on-duty/on-call Commander of the incident as soon as possible.
3. Supervisors receiving such notification shall ensure that notification is made up the chain of command as needed and that Departmental resources are deployed as required to assist in the capture of the escapee.
4. The transporting officer shall initiate and complete a detailed Incident Report of the escape prior to the end of that day's tour of duty.
5. The officer's supervisor will prepare a Commander's Information Report and forward same along with the transporting officer's Incident Report to the appropriate Division Commander for review.

E. TRANSPORTS FROM THE POLICE FACILITY

1. Whenever a prisoner is transported from the police facility to another location, all of the aforementioned search and restraint procedures will be followed.
2. Prior to transporting an arrestee from the police facility, the transporting officer will ensure that the correct arrestee is being transported and that any documentation related to medical treatment, identification, and charging documents accompany the prisoner.
3. Any documentation concerning the arrestee being suicidal, potentially violent or an escape risk shall also accompany the prisoner and anyone accepting custody of the prisoner shall be advised of such information.

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4. When transported for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner or any other Judicial hearing, the Commissioner or court officials will be made aware of any security hazards related to the arrestee should they exist.
5. Upon arrival, firearms will be secured in designated areas and restraints will only be removed at the direction of the receiving facility.

F. ARRESTEE CONTROL

1. Officers shall maintain physical control of any arrestee not secured within a transport vehicle or a holding facility.
2. Arrestees shall not be permitted to roam freely to or from transport vehicles, holding areas, etc.

G. TRANSFER DOCUMENTS

1. Officers transporting arrestees to a Commissioner's hearing, Bond Review hearing or between one holding facility and another, shall:
 - a. Take all possible steps to assure themselves of the identity of the arrestee being transported.
 - b. Ensure that all documents required by the facility to which the arrestee is to be taken are also transported with the arrestee.
 - c. Ensure that the arrestee's personal property is transported to the same destination.
 - 1) If there is a large amount of property to be transported, arrangements shall be pre-made with the holding facility as to whether the facility will accept the property
 - d. Officers, who are aware of any suicide or escape potential, or any other traits of a security nature, must include written notification of this in documentation that accompanies the prisoner.
 - 1) Documentation shall also contain any known medical condition or use of medication.
 - 2) The written notification will be via the Prisoner Property Card and will be accompanied by documentation provided by any releasing agency, hospital or facility, if applicable
 - 3) The Prisoner Property Card shall be submitted to the Records Section with the Arrest Report.
 - e. Officers transporting arrestees to a holding or detention facility, other than the Prince George's County Detention Center, shall obtain a written receipt for any prisoners turned over to that facility.
 - 1) The receipt shall be submitted to the Records Section with the police Arrest Report.

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H. SPECIAL TRANSPORT SITUATIONS

1. If a situation arises where an arrestee must be immediately transported from the facility to any other location or activity not enumerated in this General Order, the On-Duty Supervisor's approval shall first be obtained.
 - a. All other transport procedures still apply regarding the arrestee.
 - b. Examples situations include funerals, hospital and critically ill patient visitations, and the reading of wills
 - c. Every precaution will be taken to ensure the safety of the arrestee and other persons involved
2. The Prince George's County Sheriff's Department shall handle the transportation of all detainees and/or prisoners under their immediate control.
 - a. Should the Prince George's County Sheriff's Department request that the Department transport detainees and/or prisoners the following listed procedures shall be adhered to:
 - 1) Two officers will transport;
 - 2) Consider the detainee's and/or prisoner's prior escape risk;
 - 3) Surroundings of detainee's and/or prisoner's destination;
 - 4) Potential hazards or threats to detainee/prisoner or member of the public;
 - 5) Maintain isolation of detainee and/or prisoner from direct contact with others; and
 - 6) Initiate pre-operational memo to address situation to be reviewed by a supervisor.
3. Any arrestees who, because of physical disabilities or limitations, cannot safely or practically be transported in a patrol vehicle will be transported in the Transport Wagon.
 - a. An example would be prisoners requiring a wheelchair.
4. When transporting mentally disabled arrestees the Transport Wagon shall be considered for use when, in the opinion of the arresting or transporting officer, the arrestee cannot be safely secured in a patrol vehicle after consideration of all circumstances.

I. STATION PARKING

1. Only officers transporting arrestees or transport vehicles will park in the sally port area.
2. Once arrestees are secured within the Temporary Holding Facility, transporting vehicles should be moved to outside the sally port area to allow for other vehicles to enter.

4 / 605.25 GOVERNING LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

CALEA Standards 46.1.4 / 70.1.2 / 70.1.3 / 70.1.4 / 70.1.5 / 70.1.6 / 70.1.7 / 70.1.8 / 70.2.1 /
70.3.1 / 70.3.3 / 70.4.2 / 70.5.1 / 72.4.10 / 72.6.1

4/ /605.30 ANNEX

None