

XXXX Police Department

Roll Call Training Program

Category: Care and Custody of Prisoners

#: 6

Date: _____ **Presenter:** _____ **Shift:** _____

Issue/Scenario: It is department policy to handcuff all prisoners with some exceptions.

What are the exceptions?

Discussion: Officers shall handcuff all arrested adults unless the application of handcuffs will aggravate or cause injury due to age, infirmity, physical condition or prior injury. If a prisoner is not handcuffed, they shall be transported in a vehicle with a prisoner cage. Officer safety is always paramount.

Juveniles should not be handcuffed unless they have been taken into custody for a violent offense, pose an escape risk, or where the officer reasonably believes handcuffing is necessary for the safety of the juvenile or officer.

In most circumstances safety concerns mandate that arrested subjects should be handcuffed. Officers must be able to justify exceptions without unduly risking safety. Some possible exceptions are:

- a. Children under 10 years of age;
- b. Pregnant females;
- c. Handicapped or disabled suspects; or
- d. Elderly suspects.

Normally, officers shall handcuff a subject with the hands in back, but he may choose to handcuff hands in front due to the suspect's handicap or disability. If handcuffed in the front, officers should attempt to secure the handcuffs to the body by use of a belt if possible.

When a suspect is handcuffed, officers should double lock the handcuffs. This will help ensure prisoner and officer safety. Double locking reduces the chance of picking the lock or of the handcuff accidentally tightening, further restricting circulation.

Officers shall apply the handcuffs according to recognized professional standards, always striving to avoid hard strikes to wrists with handcuffs and over-tightening of handcuffs. Individuals will not be handcuffed to any portion of a police vehicle during transport.

Policy Reference:

TBP Reference: 10.01

Prepared By: