

EMERGENCY RESTRAINT CHAIR

PURPOSE: The Emergency Restraint Chair is intended as a tool that may be used for the control of combative, self-destructive, or potentially violent detainees. The proper use of this tool may reduce the physical harm to both the detainee, Department personnel, and others.

POLICY: These guidelines are intended to facilitate the proper use of the Emergency Restraint Chair by Department personnel. This tool can be used to reduce the risk of physical harm to Department personnel and the detainee. The emergency restraint chair should never be used as a means of punishment.

PROCEDURES:

I. INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

- A. Ensure that all of the detainee’s personal property has been removed from them, to include jewelry, glasses, shoes, boots, socks, coat, hat and belt. They should be clothed in their shirt, pants, or dress. The detainee should be handcuffed and wearing leg irons when warranted.
- B. Have detainee sit in the seat, secure the lap belt free end in the lap belt clevis, and pull the handle until snug. To loosen the lap belt, insert a standard handcuff key in the lap belt buckle and “push in” while pulling slack on the lap belt.
- C. Place the chain of the leg irons behind the chain retainer, if applicable.
- D. Attach the handcuff tether to the handcuffs.
- E. Release the right wrist from the handcuffs and secure it to the arm of the emergency restraint chair with the right wrist strap and pull the belt snug. Caution, do not cut off circulation to the hand.
- F. Release the left wrist from the handcuffs and secure it to the arm of the emergency restraint chair. Caution, do not cut off circulation to the hand. To loosen the wrist strap, insert a standard handcuff key in the wrist buckle and “push in” while pulling slack on the wrist strap.
- G. Retighten the lap belt if necessary.
- H. Fasten the shoulder strap by passing the free ends over the shoulders, under the armpits, and secure them to the shoulder strap clevises located on the back of the chair. Then tighten by pulling down on the shoulder strap handle. Caution, do not wrap the straps around the chest, head, or neck.
- I. Secure the ankle strap by passing the free end around the front of the ankle and securing it to the ankle strap clevis. Then pull the ankle strap hand until snug.
- J. Remove the leg irons, if applicable.
- K. Caution, violent behavior may mask dangerous medical conditions. Detainees must be monitored continuously and provided medical treatment if needed. Caution, handcuffs and leg irons must be removed as soon as possible to prevent injury.

II. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- A. Belts and straps may need to be loosened to ensure adequate blood flow.
- B. The emergency restraint chair must always be used in the upright position. Leaving the chair on its side or back may cause injury or death to the detainee.
- C. Detainees should not be left in the emergency restraint chair for more than two (2) hours.
- D. Violent behavior may mask dangerous medical conditions, therefore detainees must be

monitored for and provided medical treatment if needed.

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