

JACKSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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TRANSPORTING ARRESTED PERSONS

PURPOSE: To establish guidelines regarding the reasonable and safe transportation and restraint of prisoners.

POLICY: It is the policy of this Department to establish uniform procedures that provide adequately for the safety and security of prisoners, transporting officers, and the public during prisoner transport. Transportation and restraint by law enforcement agencies of persons who are in custody is a constant requirement and a frequent activity.

DEFINITIONS:

- I. **CONTRABAND:** Articles or substances prohibited from the possession of prisoners.
- II. **HANDICAPPED PRISONER:** A prisoner with an anatomical, physiological, or mental impairment that hinders mobility.
- III. **PRISONER:** A person who has been arrested and taken into custody.
- IV. **PROPER SEARCH:** The physical inspection of a prisoner's person, clothing, and effects for weapons or potentially hazardous articles to be used against law enforcement personnel. This search shall also have consideration for contraband, such as narcotics, narcotic paraphernalia and implements which may facilitate an escape from custody or confinement. A proper search shall be conducted in accordance with federal and state constitutions and statutes and be consistent with this Department's policy on searches.
- V. **RESTRAINING DEVICES:** Equipment such as handcuffs, flex-cuffs, leather restraint belts, leg irons, and hobble devices, used to restrain the movement of the prisoner.
- VI. **SECURITY HAZARD:** Any threat to the security of the prisoner, to the facility in which he is held, or to others with whom the prisoner may come into contact. Estimations of the degree of security hazard will govern the means of transport, the kinds of restraining devices to be used, and other actions to be taken by Department personnel to provide proper protection for and security of the prisoner.
- VII. **TRANSPORTING OFFICER:** A Department employee who is responsible for transporting a prisoner from one point to another.

PROCEDURES:

- I. **VEHICLE INSPECTION**
 - A. At the beginning and end of each tour of duty, all vehicles regularly used for prisoner transport shall be inspected by the Department employee assigned to that vehicle to determine that all safety devices are in working order and that the interior is free of weapons and contraband.
 - B. Prior to placing a prisoner in the vehicle for transport, the transporting officer shall again inspect the interior for weapons or contraband. The vehicle shall be searched again after the