

321 Care and Transport of Prisoners

321.2 HANDLING PRISONERS

321.2.1 RESTRAINT GUIDELINES

Suspects being arrested and transported in police vehicles shall be handcuffed or otherwise restrained as described below:

1. Prisoners will generally be restrained with hands behind the back. If handcuffs are used, they shall be double locked.
2. In case of advanced age, injury, physical disability, or other circumstances where arrested persons are incapable of placing their hands behind their back, but circumstances warrant restraint, the officer may:
 - (a) Use flex cuffs.
 - (b) Apply handcuffs with the hands to the front.
 - (c) Choose not to use a restraining device. If the prisoner is not restrained, two officers should be used to transport the prisoner as safely as possible.
3. Unless it would pose a safety risk to officers, the arrested person, or the public, officers should apply handcuffs to the front for arrested persons who are deaf or hard of hearing and who request to use their hands to communicate. Such communication may occur through sign language or written communication.
4. The use of an authorized waist chain, waist belt, or travel belt is authorized:
 - (a) At a prisoner processing center, which includes transport from the center to the booking facility;
 - (b) By officers in a specialized unit, if the use is authorized by Standard Operating Procedures;
 - (c) When the use is specifically authorized as part of an operations plan, or
 - (d) When authorized by a supervisor in cases where an officer feels an arrested subject may:
 1. attempt to escape,
 2. resist transport to any location,
 3. or the transport involves an unusual length of time or distance.
 4. The supervisor's name shall be noted in the offense report or supplement. For this section, Corporals may grant approval.
5. Officers shall adhere to General Order 204 (Leg Restraint Device) for guidelines on using an authorized waist chain, waist belt, or travel belt.
6. Officers may purchase, at their own cost, a waist chain, waist belt, or travel belt that has been approved by the Equipment Committee.
7. Restraints should be drawn to a secure fit but not so tight as to cause a restriction in blood flow.

Officers shall not:

1. Use restraints to punish, display authority, or as a show of force.
2. Secure a person to any part of a vehicle.
3. [Direct EMS, fire department personnel, or other medical professionals to apply a particular course of treatment for a subject to be chemically restrained by the administration of any type of anesthetic \(i.e. Ketamine, Haldol, etc.\).](#)