
Transporting Detainees

902.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for transporting persons who are in the custody of the Colorado State University Police Department.

Additional guidance can be found in the Medical Aid and Response Policy.

902.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Colorado State University Police Department to make reasonable efforts to protect the safety of persons in custody while they are being transported.

902.3 OPERATIONS DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Department is responsible for reviewing the safety and restraint systems for all vehicles used to transport persons in custody. The review shall ensure the restraint systems comply with the law and shall determine whether they reasonably meet the needs of the Department. Safety systems should allow for transporting members to be in constant and reasonably clear audio contact with each person being transported.

The Department should establish related procedures for safely transporting persons who have their legs restrained in any manner.

902.4 PROCEDURES

Members transporting a person in custody should ensure:

- A. All persons are properly restrained by a seat belt or other approved safety restraint system.
- B. All persons in custody remain in a seated or otherwise safely restrained position in the rear of the vehicle.
- C. Any person behaving in a manner so violent or uncooperative that he/she cannot or will not sit upright is:
 1. Reviewed for a medical condition by an emergency medical services provider and if a medical condition exists, transported by ambulance for a medical examination.
 2. If a person being transported is not responsive or indicates a medical condition, the transporting member should advise dispatch and render aid as soon as practicable (see the Medical Aid and Response Policy).
 - (a) Special conditions (e.g., suicidal persons, persons wearing a spit hood) may require closer observations or visual monitoring as indicated in other parts of this policy and in the Handcuffing and Restraints and Temporary Custody of Adults policies.
- D. All areas of the vehicle accessible to a person in custody are searched before and after each transport.

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- E. A person in custody is searched immediately after his/her arrest, before transport in any department vehicle, after transportation and any time another person assumes custody.
 - 1. Whenever practicable, the search should be conducted by an officer of the same sex as the person being searched. If an officer of the same sex is not reasonably available, a witnessing officer should be present during the search.
- F. Transport is accomplished in a direct and timely manner.
- G. The same consideration is shown to a person in custody as would be reasonably shown to any other passenger (e.g., avoiding loud or objectionable music, excessive heat or cooling).
- H. The manner in which a person being transported is not used as a form of punishment or retaliation.
- I. Persons suspected of having a communicable disease are transported in compliance with best Universal Precautions Protocol.
- J. Persons in custody are transported individually when practical, or within their own compartment of a multiple-compartment vehicle, unless supervisor approval is received based on unusual circumstances:
 - 1. Juveniles are not to be transported with adults.
 - 2. Females are not to be transported with males. When possible, transgender or intersex persons should be transported with persons of the gender they identify with.
 - 3. Persons with known hostilities toward each other, such as mutual combatants or rival gang members, are not to be transported together.
- K. Dispatch is advised of the following:
 - 1. The time when a transport begins and the vehicle's mileage.
 - 2. The time, vehicle's mileage and reason for any stops.
 - 3. The time of arrival at the destination and the vehicle's mileage.
- L. Reasonable efforts are made to prevent inappropriate conversations between persons being transported (e.g., demeaning or insulting language) or conversations between a person being transported and someone outside the vehicle.
- M. Direct visual observation and audio communication is provided during transport of:
 - 1. Individuals in auxiliary restraints (see the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy).
 - 2. Individuals in leg restraints.
 - 3. Individuals wearing a spit hood.
 - 4. Individuals who are a suspected suicide risk.

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902.4.1 TRANSPORTING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

When transporting a person with a disability, a transporting member should request assistance as necessary to transport the person in a reasonable and safe manner. The transporting member should ensure that any special equipment, (e.g., canes, wheelchairs or prosthetics) is transported in such a manner to not threaten the safety or security of the person or member and that such equipment is transported to the person's destination.

Members transporting a person with a disability should use their judgment in determining what, if any, restraining devices may be appropriate based on the person's disability to ensure the security, safety and dignity of all persons.

902.5 PROHIBITIONS

When transporting a person in custody members should not:

- A. Leave the vehicle unattended with the person in the vehicle.
- B. Stop to conduct any personal activities.
- C. Respond to calls or engage in other enforcement activities except in exigent circumstances.
- D. Engage in a pursuit unless exigent circumstances exist, and then only after the need to apprehend the suspect is weighed against the safety of the person in transport.
 - 1. A vehicle containing more than a single person in custody should not be involved in any pursuit.
- E. Transport persons in a vehicle that is not equipped to safely transport prisoners except in an emergency. A properly equipped vehicle should be requested.
- F. Drive in a manner intentionally designed to punish or make the person uncomfortable.

902.6 ESCAPES

In the event that a person in custody escapes while being transported, the member transporting the person should immediately advise dispatch and other units of the escape, provide a description of the escapee, notify the Shift Supervisor and submit a written report as soon as practical describing the circumstances of the escape and any recapture.

The Shift Supervisor should notify the appropriate Division Commander upon learning of an escape. The Shift Supervisor should review the report submitted by the transporting member, investigate the circumstances surrounding the escape and submit a report as soon as practical.

902.7 NOTIFICATIONS

Members should notify a supervisor and any receiving facility of information regarding any circumstances the member reasonably believes would be potential safety concerns or medical risks to the person (e.g., uncooperative or violent, prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, medical conditions) that may have occurred prior to, or during, transportation.

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902.8 DOCUMENTATION

Members should document, in the appropriate report, when a person is injured during transportation. Documentation should include the condition of the person prior to transportation and the known or suspected causes of the injury during transportation (e.g., hitting head, struggling with restraints, fighting with other prisoners). Any visible injuries should be photographed and included with the report.

902.9 TRAINING

The Department should ensure that members receive training on detainee transportation policies and procedures, restraint systems and restraint devices.