



## California Exposition and State Fair Police Department

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### DEPARTMENTAL GENERAL ORDER

**ORDER № 2100.100**

May 2019 (Revised)

01/11/2005 (New)

### PRISONER SECURITY – HANDCUFFING

#### 2100.101 PURPOSE

- A. The police department's policy for prisoner security and handcuffing of prisoners.

#### 2100.102 POLICY

- A. The arresting Police Officer shall search the prisoner for weapons and secure with handcuffs.
- B. Prisoners shall be handcuffed with their hands behind their back.
- C. Exceptions:
  1. When an prisoner's physical limitations restrict handcuffing behind their back.
  2. When a waist-chain or belt device is used.
- D. Handcuffs shall be applied to minimize the possibility of inflicting injury to the prisoner and of the prisoner picking or slipping the handcuff's locking mechanism.
- E. Handcuffs shall be applied firmly on the wrists, between the hand and the protruding base of the ulnar bone, to prevent the prisoner from slipping them off their wrist.
- F. Handcuffs shall be applied so that the oval shape of the handcuff matches the oval shape of the prisoner's wrist.
- G. Prisoners transported by vehicle shall have their handcuffs double locked to prevent closing tighter than the original application.
- H. Things to avoid:
  1. Application of handcuffs over bulky clothing. This can restrict the ability of the handcuff single bar to pivot and make the cuffing procedure difficult or impossible.
- I. Except in an emergency situations,
  1. Officers are prohibited from leaving handcuffed prisoner(s) in an unattended vehicle when a police officer does not have direct visual contact.
- J. General Considerations.
  1. Handcuffs are a preventative measure used to protect officers and prisoners. Handcuffs offer a temporary restraint and some restrictions, but they do not immobilize a prisoner. Officers shall maintain constant control over handcuffed prisoner(s) in order to minimize opportunities for escapes and injuries.
  2. Officers shall exercise maximum control of handcuffed prisoners when transporting them to or from a vehicle or into a facility where weapons or escape routes are available, particularly around other officers carrying exposed weapons.

3. Handcuff Removal. Handcuffs, once properly applied, shall not be removed until the prisoner is within the confines of a proper detention facility. Remember, the prisoner is the responsibility of the arresting police officer.

**2100.103 PLASTIC RESTRAINING STRAPS**

- A. Plastic Restraining Straps are recommended for a limited number of uses.
- B. Sufficient conventional handcuffs are not available.
- C. When a prisoner is too large or for physical reasons may not be restrained by conventional handcuffs.
- D. Plastic restraining straps may be successfully used with conventional handcuffs for restraint of a one-armed prisoner or one with an arm in a cast.
- E. Limitations of Plastic Restraining Straps.
  1. Proper application may require the use of two hands.
  2. A single officer may have difficulty exercising proper control over a prisoner while applying the straps.
  3. May restrict blood circulation if applied too tightly.
  4. Adjustment is only possible by removal of the plastic straps by cutting them off.
  5. May be broken by a noncompliant or violent arrestee.
  6. Removal is only possible with a cutting tool.