


# PINE BLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES MANUAL

	<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>POLICY NUMBER 1050</b>
	<b>TRANSPORTING ARRESTED PERSONS</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE 02/19/2008</b>
	<b>CHAPTER: ARREST PROCEDURES</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE 02/19/2008</b>
	<b>ISSUED By:</b> Chief of Police John E. Howell	<b>TOTAL PAGES 3</b>

## I. POLICY

It shall be the policy of this law enforcement agency to take the precautions necessary while transporting prisoners to protect the lives and safety of the officers, public, and the person in custody.

## II. PROCEDURES

### A. VEHICLE INSPECTION

1. At the beginning and end of each tour of duty, all vehicles regularly used for prisoner transport shall be inspected for readiness as follows:
  - a. The safety screen shall be securely in place and undamaged;
  - b. All windows shall be intact, and outer door latches in proper working order;
  - c. Rear seat door handles and window controls should be deactivated; and
  - d. The interior shall be thoroughly searched to ensure that no weapons or contraband have been left behind or hidden within the vehicle.
2. 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 prisoner has been delivered to the detention facility or other destination.

## **B. HANDCUFFING**

1. Officers shall handcuff (double locked) all prisoners with their hands behind their back and palms facing outward.
2. The officer may handcuff the prisoner with his/her hands in front, or utilize other appropriate restraining devices where the prisoner.
  - a. Is in an obvious state of pregnancy;
  - b. Has a physical handicap; or
  - c. Has injuries that could be aggravated by standard handcuffing procedures.
3. Prisoners shall not be handcuffed to any part of the vehicle during transportation.
4. Additional approved restraint devices may be used to secure a prisoner who violently resists arrest or who manifests mental disorders such that he poses a threat to himself or the public.
5. Officers are prohibited from transporting prisoners who are restrained in a prone position.

## **C. TRANSPORT**

1. Prior to transport, all prisoners shall be thoroughly searched for any weapons or tools of escape.
  - a. If practical, the protective search should be conducted by an officer of the same sex of the prisoner.
  - b. The transporting officer should search the prisoner, regardless of searches that may or may not have been conducted by arresting officers, unless a search was conducted in his presence. The transporting officer will be responsible for any contraband found on prisoners.
2. Prior to initiating transport, the officer shall provide the dispatcher with the following information.
  - a. Arrest location and destination of transport; and
  - b. Mileage readings before and after transport and the unit number being driven, if prisoner is opposite sex of officer.
3. Females shall not be handcuffed to male arrestees and should normally be separated during transport.
4. Juveniles shall not be transported with adult prisoners.

5. The officer should use care when assisting a prisoner into the vehicle for transport.
6. Prisoners shall be transported in the following manner:
  - a. Where the vehicle has a security screen but only one transporting officer, the prisoner shall be placed in the back seat on the right hand side of the vehicle. When the vehicle is not equipped with a security screen and has only one transporting officer, the prisoner shall be placed in the right front seat.
  - b. When a prisoner is being transported in a two-officer vehicle without a security screen, the prisoner shall be placed in the right rear seat. The second officer shall sit in the left rear seat behind the driver.
  - c. Leg restraints shall be used when an officer believes the prisoner has a potential for violent behavior.
  - d. One transporting officer should not attempt to transport more than one prisoner in a vehicle without a security barrier.
  - e. All prisoners shall be secured in the vehicle by proper use of a seatbelt.
7. If an arrestee is in a wheelchair, an ambulance will be called to transport the person under arrest to the appropriate facility. When requesting an ambulance for transport of prisoners, advise dispatch that an ambulance is needed for transport of a prisoner only and this is not a medical emergency. Any wheelchairs, crutches, prosthetic devices, and medication should be transported with, but not in the possession of, the prisoner. Any item transported with a prisoner will be searched to make sure no contraband is being transported.
8. Prisoners shall not be left unattended during transport. Any escape shall be immediately reported to the communications center.
9. Officers transporting prisoners will not engage in any pursuit or traffic stops. They will not be dispatched to answer any call for service.
10. Due to safety concerns for transporting officers and the potential need to video tape prisoners during transport, the preferred way to transport a prisoner is via a patrol division officer or a transport officer assigned to the administrative division. Units equipped with video capability shall video the transport of all prisoners from beginning to end of transport.