

**MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
CUSTODY DIVISION POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL**

**CHAPTER 2 - BOOKING
CUS - 2 -19
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DATE: May 23, 2018

USE OF RESTRAINTS - SAFETY CELL

POLICY

Any inmate that displays behavior so violent or so self destructive that placement in the safety cell will fail to or has failed to adequately control them, may be placed into supplemental restraints within the safety cell.

DEFINITIONS

MECHANICAL RESTRAINTS: Handcuffs, leg irons, belly chains.

SAFETY CELL OBSERVATION REPORT: Form used to document safety cell placement and supervision. Becomes part of an inmate's permanent record.

RESTRAINT CHAIR: A specifically manufactured metal and plastic chair with equipment designed to restrain or limit the movement of inmates/arrestees who require extreme measures of control. The chair is equipped with a wheeled transport carriage for expedient and safe movement from one point to another after the inmate/arrestee has been secured.

PROCEDURE

Mechanical restraints such as handcuffs, leg irons, or belly chains should not be considered for supplemental restraint of a person in the safety cell. This policy recognizes that there may be occasions where an inmate may be placed in the safety cell secured by one or more of these devices for a brief time during an emergency or urgent situation. The duration of such restrained confinement should only last for a short period of time. Restrained confinement for extended periods will require the approval of a Lieutenant or higher authority.

The restraint chair is the preferred restraint supplement for use in the safety cell. The sheriff's sergeant or higher ranking sheriff's official shall authorize the use of the restraint chair and directly supervise the placement of an inmate/arrestee into the device.

The use of the restraint chair is limited to the placement of inmates/arrestees who exhibit violent and disordered behavior that require a restrictive and confining environment for close supervision. The restraint chair shall not be used as a means of punishment or discipline. Inmates/arrestees should be clothed or appropriately covered to avoid any humiliation exposure unnecessarily.

Inmates/arrestees placed in the restraint chair will normally be housed in the safety cell. Alternative locations shall be approved by the Lieutenant or higher authority. Inmates secured in the restraint chair shall be kept physically separated from other inmates.

Once the application of the restraint chair is initiated on an inmate in the safety cell, custody staff shall evaluate the inmate's behavior. Inmates who require retention in the restraint chair shall be reviewed by the Booking or Housing Sergeant every hour. A medical opinion on restraint placement and retention shall be secured as soon as possible, but no later than one hour from time of placement. The inmate will be medically cleared for continued retention at least every four hours thereafter. A mental health consultation will be secured as soon as possible, but no later than eight hours from time of placement. If mental health personnel are not on site, the sergeant will contact Community Mental Health and make arrangements for treatment. All reviews are to be documented on the Safety Cell Observation Report.

If the Booking and/or Housing Sergeant determines an inmate cannot be safely removed from restraints after eight hours of continuous placement, the inmate shall be taken to a medical facility for further evaluation.

Direct visual observations shall be conducted every fifteen minutes and documented on the Safety Cell Observation Report. Visual checks should include observation for mental and behavioral conditions, ease of breathing, and color and movement of extremities. Any condition which might interfere with the inmate's ability to breath or causing circulation problems to the restrained limbs, shall be reported immediately to medical staff.

When a person is placed in the restraint chair, the Deputies will observe the inmate at least two times every thirty minutes. During these checks, deputies will observe the inmates level of consciousness. The Deputy will also observe the inmates extremities and make adjustments to the restraints, if needed. Medical staff will be immediately notified if the inmate complains of pain, becomes incontinent, vomits, or has any visible injuries, or other signs of distress.

Appropriate personal hygiene and hydration measures will be provided by Deputies. The inmate will be allowed the opportunity to use the toilet facilities when necessary. Staff will offer the restrained inmate water at least every two hours and also offer appropriate food during scheduled facility meal times.

There will be only one restrained person in the safety cell at a time. The safety cell is to be cleaned of any bodily fluids prior to the placement of another inmate.

The provisions of this policy do not apply to the use of handcuffs, shackles, belly chains, or other restraint equipment utilized for routine and emergency security, transportation, and movement of inmates.

RELATED STANDARDS:

Title 15, Article 5, Section 1058

Chapter 2, Section 18

DATE REVISED

08-03-1994

05-11-2017

By order of

**JAMIE SCARDINA
BUREAU COMMANDER**