

	ELGIN POLICE DEPARTMENT 151 Douglas Avenue Elgin, Illinois 60120	
Effective Date: 06/17/02	STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE	Revised Date: 05/27/15
Chief of Police: 	Special Transports, 71.3	
Cross Reference: SOP 42.5 Responding to Persons with Mental Illness SOP 71.2 Restraining Devices	Policy Sections: 71.3.1 Transporting Sick, Injured, Mentally Ill, or Disabled Detainees 71.3.2 Security of Detainees Requiring Medical Attention 71.3.3 Opposite Sex Transports	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for special transport situations.

POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Elgin Police Department to provide guidance to employees on procedures involving the transportation of detainees who are of the opposite sex, sick, injured, or disabled and to prescribe measures to be undertaken in transporting detainees to medical facilities for treatment and other special situations.

DEFINITIONS

Mental Illness: (405 ILCS 5/1-129) A mental or emotional disorder that substantially impairs a person's thought, perception of reality, emotional process, judgment behavior, or ability to cope with the ordinary demands of life, but does not include a developmental disability, dementia or Alzheimer's disease absent psychosis, a substance abuse disorder, or an abnormality manifested only by repeated criminal or otherwise antisocial conduct.

PROCEDURES

71.3.1 TRANSPORTING SICK, INJURED, MENTALLY ILL, OR DISABLED DETAINEES

- A. If a detainee at the scene of an incident requires immediate medical attention due to injury or illness, the arresting officer will ensure that the fire department has been notified to respond to the scene. If medical treatment is required, the detainee will be transported by ambulance. If the detainee refuses treatment and the attending paramedics determine that immediate treatment is not necessary, the detainee will be allowed to sign a release of treatment waiver and be transported by a police vehicle to the Elgin Police Department or other holding facility.
- B. If a detainee at the scene of an incident requires immediate medical attention due to a mental illness or attempted suicide, officers shall arrange for transport to the hospital for an evaluation. Transport by ambulance or police vehicle is at the discretion of the officer. When a detainee exhibits signs of excited delirium or a serious mental episode, the fire department shall be contacted for transport by ambulance. Officers will remain with the detainee until they have received treatment or are admitted to the hospital. Cross reference Standard Operating Procedure 42.5, Responding to Persons with Mental Illness.
- C. If a detainee located at the police department requires medical attention, a supervisor shall be notified to determine if an ambulance will be requested. The employee reporting the medical problem shall notify communications to request an ambulance. In cases involving critical medical emergencies, an ambulance may be requested prior to supervisory notification.
- D. Detainees who have very minor injuries may be transported to the hospital in a police vehicle, with the approval of a supervisor. However, if the injury has the potential to be life threatening or serious, an ambulance shall be used.

- E. When it is not likely to interfere with the safe, efficient and secure transport of a disabled detainee, he/she may be transported in a police vehicle.
 - 1. In cases where it is determined that a police vehicle would not be adequate for a disabled detainee, an ambulance may be used for transport.
 - 2. If an ambulance is used for transportation of a disabled detainee, the procedures outlined in section 71.3.2 of this directive shall be followed.
- F. Special transports not covered in this policy may be authorized at the discretion of a supervisor.

71.3.2 SECURITY OF DETAINEES REQUIRING MEDICAL ATTENTION

- A. When a detainee is transported for medical attention, an officer shall either accompany the detainee in the ambulance or follow the ambulance in a police vehicle.
- B. Unless the detainee's medical condition or treatment procedures prevent the use of restraining devices, the detainee shall be hand and ankle cuffed prior to their transport in the ambulance. Refer to the procedures set forth in Standard Operating Procedure 71.2, Restraining Devices.
- C. If necessary and appropriate, detainees may be transported in the safety restraint chair. During these instances, a supervisor must be notified.
- D. Officers will remain with the detainee during medical treatment, unless requested to leave the treatment area by the attending physician. If this occurs, officers shall position themselves to prevent the detainee from escaping.
- E. Should the detainee be admitted to the medical facility, the shift supervisor shall be notified. The shift supervisor shall make the determination of security needs based upon the severity of the crime, wishes of the medical facility, and escape risk.
- F. When the detainee is released from the medical facility, communications shall be notified. A police vehicle shall be utilized for transporting him/her back to the police department, except in special situations where the police vehicle does not provide adequate accommodations for the detainee's injury.
 - 1. In such situations, the shift supervisor shall be contacted to determine an alternate vehicle.
 - 2. The transporting officer shall search the detainee prior to the transport.
 - 3. All instructions for future treatment and medication shall be obtained in writing by the transporting officer and signed by the attending physician. These items shall follow the detainee to all future locations.

71.3.3 OPPOSITE SEX TRANSPORTS

- A. Male and female detainees shall not be transported in the same vehicle. However, if a special police vehicle with separate passenger compartments for detainees is available, then male and female detainees may be transported in the same vehicle.
- B. Employees transporting a member of the opposite sex shall provide the following information to communications:
 - 1. Starting location and destination.
 - 2. Beginning and ending mileage.