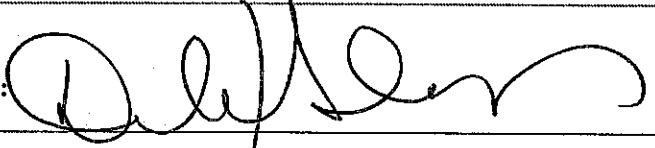


City of St. Louis Department of Public Safety / Division of Corrections
POLICY & PROCEDURES

CHAPTER:	3	Institutional Operations	3.1.20
SECTION:	1	Security and Control	
SUBJECT:	20	Use of Restraints and Restraint Chair	EFFECTIVE DATE: 11 / 12 / 2020
STANDARDS: ACA - 4 - ALDF: 2A-13,2B-02, 2B-02-1, 2B-03 (M), 2B-06, 2B-07			
APPROVED: 			REVIEW DATE: 3 / 31 / 21
Dale Glass COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONS			REVISION DATE: 4-7-21
Rescind: 3.1.20: Restraints dated 2/12/18 Cancel: 3.1.24: Restraint Chair dated 12/18/06			

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the St. Louis City Division of Corrections to use restraint chair and other restraint devices to restrain inmates in a manner that protects the wellbeing of the inmate.

II. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for proper use and application of restraint devices on inmates.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

All Divisional custody staff is responsible for adhering to the following procedures:

IV. DEFINITIONS

Armorer: A custody staff designated by the Detention Center Superintendent to maintain safety and security of the armory, and issue firearms and other security devices to authorized personnel, and maintain accountability.

Qualified Health Professional (QHP): An individual with the qualification of a Registered Nurse or above, and is permitted by law to practice medicine or to evaluate and care for the physical and mental health needs of inmates.

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Restraint Chair: A chair that has restraint features and transport capabilities, and is used to limit the movement of inmates who require extreme measures of control.

Restraints/Restraint Device: The term “restraint” or “restraint device” as used in this policy is construed and interpreted as only the devices approved and issued for use in the Division as follows: Restraint chair, flex cuffs, handcuffs, leg iron, padlock, protective black- box handcuffs cover, belly chain, and waist belt.

Rubber Room: An unfurnished cell unit with padded walls and limited plumbing fixtures designed for temporary isolation of violent inmates or inmates with uncontrollable behavior, who show tendency to injure themselves or others.

V. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Only restraint devices approved by the appointing Authority and issued by the Division will be used in the performance of duty.
2. The St. Louis City Division of Corrections will use restraint chair to provide safe containment of an inmate exhibiting violent or uncontrollable behavior to prevent injury to the inmate, injury to others, or damage to property when other control techniques have failed to yield the desired result.
3. Staff may use the restraint chair for emergencies as a means of moving a combative inmate safely from one section of the facility to another.
4. Restraint devices are used only by staff trained in their proper use.
5. A Correctional Officer may apply restraints on an inmate when the inmate is engaged in the destruction of facility property, or threat of physical harm to self or others and then, notify the Supervisor after such application, (see DOC #3.1.10: Incident Reporting).
6. Restraint devices are stored in designated areas of each facility.
7. The limitations of an inmate’s physical condition will be considered when applying restraint device.
8. The following may constitute reason not to use restraint chair:
 - a. Serious injury, fracture or wounds that would preclude such use,
 - b. Documented significant peripheral vascular disease that would preclude such use,
 - c. Recent surgery or hospitalization that would preclude such use,

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- d. Significant heart disease manifested by frequent angina, -etc.,
 - e. Any other reason as may be determined by a qualified health professional.
9. The foregoing reasons in item #8 can only be determined by a qualified health professional and no other.
 10. Restraint Device Sign-out Log is maintained in a binder and kept in the designated issuing locations. When a binder is full it is forwarded to the Chief of Security who forwards it to the Records Retention Unit as provided in DOC #1.1.21: Records Retention and Release of Public Records.
 11. Staff is prohibited from applying any restraint device on an inmate as punishment.
 12. The Chief of Security or qualified designee will conduct weekly inspections of all security devices including restraint chair noting the items needing repair or maintenance.
 13. The inspection will be reported in writing to the Detention Center Superintendent.
 14. Staff will adhere to facility Post orders pertaining to application of restraints and as provided in this policy and procedures.
 15. With regards to uses of the restraint chair, whenever the directive of the Divisional management staff conflicts with the directive of a Qualified health professional, the directive of the QHP shall prevail.

VI. PROCEDURE

A. Inventory and Issuance of Restraint Devices

1. On each shift, the Shift Supervisor/designee will inventory all the security devices stored in various locations of the facility, and records the result in the Daily Activity log and the IJMS. Defective, damaged or missing devices will be documented and reported.
2. The Restraint Device Sign-Out Log is signed each time a device is issued from, or returned to, the armory. The Armorer, Shift Supervisor, Safety Coordinator and Chief of Security will maintain accountability of security devices stored in the Armory.

B. Restraint Chair

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1. The Detention Center Superintendent, the Chief of Security, Duty Officer, the Shift Supervisor or a qualified health professional (PHP) may authorize the use of restraint chair.
2. Only custody staff trained in the use of the restraint chair will place an inmate in it. A minimum of two (2) Correctional Officers and a Supervisor will be present to assist in the placement of the inmate in, or removal from, the restraint chair. The Supervisor will observe, direct and supervise.
3. Restraint Chair will be used for a maximum time frame of three hours in any given encounter and may be re-authorized by the designated authorizing body for additional five (5) hours in increment. No inmate shall be restrained in the chair in excess of eight hours in any such encounter regardless of behavior.
4. Inmates who continue to exhibit uncontrollable behavior after the facility's eight-hour limit has been reached shall be placed in regular handcuffs and leg iron and placed in a solitary cell or the Rubber Room. Handcuffs and leg irons shall be removed once the inmate has been placed in the isolated cell.
5. The Shift Supervisor may authorize the use of the restraint chair during non-business hours. Approval from the Duty Officer must be sought, and notification to QHP made immediately following placement, and for continued use.
6. No inmate in the restraint chair will be left with their body exposed.
7. Correction Officers may use reasonable force to gain control to place an inmate in the restraint chair if inmate refuses to cooperate. (See DOC policy #3.1.21: Use of Force).

C. Placement in the Restraint Chair

1. Before placing an inmate in the restraint chair, the Shift Supervisor will:
 - a. Obtain in advance, an approved signed copy of DOC Form #3.1.24-2 from the divisional qualified health professional/designee who completes the Restraint Chair Medical Approval Form and ascertains that there are no medical reasons not to place the inmate in a restraint chair. The form shall be filed with the Incident Report.
 - b. If advance approval cannot be obtained and only in cases where destructive behavior will result in the immediate harm to inmate, staff, or others, or property, then such approval shall be sought immediately after placing an inmate in the chair.
 - c. The Shift Supervisor will:

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- 1). Issue a hand-held Video Camcorder to record the use and placement of the inmate in the restraint chair.
 - 2). Direct the Master Control Officer to record the use and placement of the inmate in the restraint chair via CCTV if the hand-held Camcorder is unavailable, and
 - 3). Direct the Corrections Officer or the Master Control Officer when to start and stop recording the use of restraint chair and the placement of the inmate.
2. The Correctional Officers will position the chair in an upright position. Never lay it on its back to place an inmate; ensure inmate is restrain with leg irons, and handcuffs behind inmate's back. then lift the wheels of the chair before placing an inmate in it.

D. After placement in Restraint Chair

1. The Shift Supervisor will:
 - a. Immediately request a medical staff to assess inmate's wellbeing.
 - b. Assign a Correctional Officer to remain with the inmate until the arrival of the medical staff person to assess the inmate's wellbeing.
 - c. Have the inmate physically separated and isolated from other inmates to avoid being ridiculed or made an object of ridicule.
 - d. Review the use of the restraint chair once every one (1) hour, and:
 - 1). Talk with the inmate,
 - 2). Check the restraints for comfort and security,
 - 3). Develop an appropriate plan for release,
 - 4). Check the Restraint Chair Log Form for appropriate entries
 - e. Assign a Correctional Officer to conduct routine checks and record visual observations of the inmate for as long as the inmate remains in the chair.
 - f. Direct that the inmate be transported to any safe area in the facility for observation.

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- g. Direct the Correctional Officer who requested the use of restraint chair to complete an Incident Report per Policy #3.1.10.
 - h. Arrange for transportation if medical staff recommends that inmate be taken to hospital.
2. The medical staff will:
- a. Examine the inmate (circulation, limb color, etc.) at least every 30 minutes if inmate is a serious mental health patient, or every one (1) hour for non-mental health patient inmates;
 - b. Exercise the inmate's limbs every (2) hour,
 - c. Consult with the Shift Supervisor to ensure inmate will not pose a threat during the exercise,
 - d. Direct the Correctional Officer to free inmate's limbs one at a time from restraints and for a period of 2 minutes for each limb,
 - e. Assess the inmate's mental health status at least every 30 minutes,
 - f. Communicate the inmate's status to Correctional Officers and Shift Supervisor,
 - g. Document the examination on the Restraint Chair Log Form.
3. The Corrections Officer will:
- a. Apply a pair of shower shoes if available, to the inmate's feet.
 - b. Maintain direct visual observation and conducts rounds on the inmate every 15 minutes until the inmate is removed from the restraint chair or until the officer is properly relieved.
 - c. Document in the Restraint Chair Log Form the reason inmate was placed in the restraint chair and the authorizing authority, any unusual behavior by inmate, inmate's physical condition, the time inmate was placed in the restraint chair, the time of observation checks, inmate requests for use of restroom, time inmate was fed, and the time inmate was taken out of the restraint chair.
 - d. The Restraint Chair Log Form is completed before the end of the tour of duty for the shift on which the inmate was placed in and removed from the

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chair. The Restraint Chair Log Form once completed is to be submitted to the Chief of Security.

E. Feeding

1. During meal time, the Correctional Officer will:
 - a. Advise inmate that any disruptive act during attempt to feed will be regarded as refusal to eat,
 - b. set the plate on inmate's lap,
 - c. Free one limb to allow inmate to feed,
 - d. Remain with and monitor the inmate during feeding,
 - e. Retrieve feeding tray or plate from inmate upon finishing,
 - f. Re-secure inmate's limb,
 - g. Document feeding or refusal in the Restraint Chair Log Form.
2. If while attempting to serve an inmate with meal, the inmate becomes disruptive or if in the opinion of the Shift Supervisor the freeing of a limb to allow inmate to feed will pose a threat of harm to the inmate being restrained or others, the inmate's action shall be interpreted as refusing to eat.

F. Use of Restroom

1. Inmate requests thru the Correctional Officer to use the restroom,
2. The Correctional Officer discusses request with immediate supervisor who in turn obtains approval from the Shift Supervisor.
3. The Shift Supervisor approves/disapproves request.
4. If disapproved, the Shift Supervisor documents action in the Shift Supervisor's "comment" section in the Restraint Chair Log Form.
5. If approved, the immediate supervisor calls one additional Correctional Officer and supervises both officers to assist inmate to the restroom.
6. The supervisor advises inmate that any disruptive act during effort to aid the inmate in using the restroom will be regarded as refusal to use the restroom.

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7. While the inmate is still in the chair, the Correctional Officer shall apply leg irons on inmate's legs.
8. The Correctional Officer releases the restraint chair straps on the inmate's legs and apply leg iron. Inmate will remain in leg iron while using the bathroom.
9. If inmate becomes uncooperative during, or after, being removed from the restraint chair, the Correctional Officer restrains the inmate back in the chair and inmate will not be allowed to use the restroom.
10. If the inmate urinates or defecates while in the restraint chair, the Correctional Officer obtains a protective mask, a disposable glove, and a bio-hazard plastic bag from medical unit for the officer's own use. The Corrections Officer wheels the inmate into the shower area, and supervises the inmate in removing the soiled clothes.
11. If inmate remains uncooperative, the Correctional Officer leaves the inmate restrained in the chair to determine when appropriate clean-up of inmate can be made.
12. The Correctional Officer bags the soiled clothes and arranges for the items to be sent to the laundry for cleaning. (See policy # 4.3.4: Laundry).
13. The Correctional Officer enters comment in the "Security Staff" comment section in the Restraint Chair Log Form.

G. Removal from the Restraint Chair

1. The decision to remove the inmate from the restraint chair will be made by:
 - a. The Shift Supervisor in consultation with a qualified health professional,
 - b. The qualified health professional in consultation with the Shift Supervisor when a health care emergency precipitated the use of the restraint chair.
2. Consultation must take place regardless of the purpose of the restraint.
3. If inmate remains in the chair at shift change, the Shift Supervisor on whose shift the inmate was placed in the restraint chair may, on the basis of the inmate's behavior, recommend removing the inmate from the chair or letting the relieving Supervisor decide later if removing the inmate from the chair at the present time will pose a serious security risk.
4. The relieving Shift Supervisor must interview the inmate to further assess

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security risk and advises the relieving officer to start a new observation log with the name of the relieving Supervisor as the authorizing authority.

5. Inmate will be credited with the time previously spent prior to the shift change over. Authorization for time extension may be sought by the relieving Shift Supervisor if it becomes necessary to do so. The "Continuous Observation" section must be checked in the Restraint Chair Log Form.
6. The Shift Supervisor shall authorize the recording of an inmate at the time the inmate is being removed from the restraint chair.
7. A minimum of two (2) Correctional Officers and a supervisor will be present when an inmate is being removed from the restraint chair.
8. The Correctional Officer shall direct the inmate to get off the restraint chair and the inmate shall be escorted to assigned holding cell or area.
9. The Correctional Officer shall document the removal of the inmate from the restraint chair by recording the date, time, and the name of the Shift Supervisor on the Restraint Chair Log Form.
10. The Shift Supervisor shall sign in the appropriate place on the Restraint Chair Log Form to indicate the authorized removal of the inmate from the chair.
11. The Shift Supervisor shall request a medical staff to examine the inmate immediately after removal from the restraint chair. The Signed Restraint Chair Log Form will be submitted to the Chief of Security.

VII. TRAINING

This policy and procedure will be included in the First-Year and subsequent In-Service Training for staff having direct contact with the inmate population:

- a. The Shift Supervisor and the Area Supervisor will ensure that all personnel who may be called upon to operate the restraint chair have been trained in the proper technique for its use.
- b. The Training Coordinator, the Chief of Security, the Shift Supervisor will maintain a list of all staff trained in the use of the restraint chair.