

**NEW HAVEN
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE**

SPECIAL ORDER



SPECIAL ORDER 22-03

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 3, 2022

PRISONER TRANSPORTATION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to modify, clarify and specify the guidelines and procedures for the transportation of prisoners, as outlined in General Order 5.02, Prisoner Transportation to ensure the safety and security of prisoners, officers, and the public when a person is taken into custody and transported.

POLICY

It is the policy of the New Haven Department of Police Service to provide emergency medical services to any person, who is injured, appears to be in need of medical attention or requests medical attention while under the custody or control of a police officer. This includes those individuals who are gravely disabled or emotionally disturbed and pose a threat to themselves or others as outlined in General Order 8.16, Emotionally Disturbed Persons. The police officer shall immediately request emergency medical services for any person under their custody or control who meets these criteria.

PROCEDURES

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

- The primary means of transporting prisoners is in a marked police cruiser equipped with a screened prisoner compartment.
- The prisoner conveyance van can be used in the following circumstances:
 - Transportation to court.
 - When the prisoner's size or other physical conditions preclude the use of a marked patrol vehicle. The transporting Officer shall receive permission from their supervisor prior to transport. The arresting officer shall document the specific reason for the use of the prisoner conveyance van in their report.
 - When authorized by a superior officer of the Department, holding the rank of Lieutenant or above, for a special event or an incident that may result in multiple arrests.
- All prisoners will be secured in any transport vehicle by proper use of a seat belt. If the prisoner is combative or Officer safety considerations make doing so impracticable, an Officer may obtain permission from a Supervisor to transport the prisoner in a patrol vehicle equipped with a screened prisoner compartment without the use of a seatbelt. Supervisors shall grant such approval only under these or similar extenuating circumstances. The reasons for not securing the individual in a seat belt shall be documented in the arresting Officer's report.
- Officers shall make an inquiry prior to transport and upon arrival at the detention facility during the intake process to determine whether the prisoner is injured and/or needs medical assistance. These questions and responses shall be recorded on the Officer's body-worn camera. If a prisoner is injured, complains of injury, appears to be in an unstable medical or mental health status, appears to be in need of medical attention, or requests medical attention prior to transport, the Officer shall immediately contact their supervisor and request that an emergency medical service (EMS) be dispatched to the current location.
- Officers shall operate any transport vehicle in a manner that is calculated to maintain the safety and security of the prisoner and at a speed not to exceed the posted speed limit.
- Officers are prohibited from the use of City-issued or personal cellular telephones, without a hands-free device, while engaged in the transport of a prisoner.

- The physical well-being of prisoners shall be monitored during transport. Particular attention shall be directed to prisoners reported or suspected of being under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol or who have a history of or propensity for violence.
- If during transport a prisoner is injured, complains of injury, appears to be in need of medical attention, appears to be in an unstable medical or mental health status, appears to be in need of medical attention, or requests medical attention, or if the transporting vehicle is involved in a collision, the Officer shall:
 - Pull to the side of the roadway, as soon as practicable;
 - Immediately notify the dispatcher to request a cover Officer and to request that an emergency medical service (EMS) be dispatched to the current location;
 - Immediately notify their Supervisor;
 - When it is safe to do so, immediately render aid consistent with their training or experience; and
 - Remain on scene to await the arrival of EMS and the Supervisor

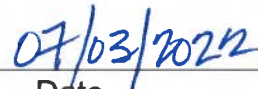
TRAINING

- All sworn personnel will complete a course of prescribed instruction on the practices and protocols outlined in this policy. The training will include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - Officer safety considerations while securing seat belts on prisoners for transport;
 - Procedures when a transport Officer needs to obtain medical attention for a prisoner;
 - A knowledge test of the course material.

All other guidelines and procedures established in General Order 5.02, Prisoner Transportation, will remain in effect.



Regina Y. Rush-Kittle
Acting Chief of Police



Date