

RENO POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER

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Chief of Police: Jerry Hoover /s/		
Legal Advisor: Karen Fraley /s/		
Approving Deputy Chief:		
General Order No: P-230-04	Issued: June 8, 2004	Supersedes: 3/640.000
General Order Title: HOSPITALIZED PRISONERS		

POLICY

As hospitalized prisoners represent a potential escape risk and safety hazard to hospital staff, patients and visitors, the Reno Police Department has established procedures for the guarding of prisoners requiring hospitalization at local medical treatment facilities.

PROCEDURES

On-duty patrol supervisors will determine the need for a police guard for hospitalized prisoners and arrange for scheduling/relief of personnel assigned.

Officers' Responsibilities

Hospitalized prisoners will be admonished that unauthorized departure from the hospital is classified as an escape and is punishable as a separate felony crime.

Officers assigned to guard duty will maintain contact with the hospitalized prisoner until relieved by another officer. This includes, as much as possible, accompanying the prisoner when he or she is taken from the room or ward for testing, etc.

If there are two or more prisoners and one has to leave the room/ward for whatever reason, the police guard will notify the Watch Commander to request assistance. Assistance for direct supervision of more than one prisoner is decided on a case by case basis.

Police guards will adhere to hospital rules and regulations. In the event of a conflict between hospital regulations and prisoner security/public safety, the Watch Commander will be contacted to rectify the situation.

Restraints

Use of restraints will be at the discretion of hospital personnel or at the direction of the police

guard. Whenever practicable, hospital restraints will be used to restrict the prisoner's movements. When hospital restraints are used and/or removed, it will be the hospital's responsibility to document such use.

Attorney Consultation

The attorney-client (prisoner) confidential communication right will be honored and will extend to the attorney's staff. The police guard will leave the hospital room during consultation, however the guard will maintain uninterrupted visual contact with the prisoner during a consult.

Visitation

Hospitalized prisoners will have no visitors except under the following conditions:

- Prisoner must have medical authorization from the attending physician.
- Visitation privileges for family members, friends, or any other person may be permitted, but only at the discretion of the Detective Division Commander. If such visitation is permitted, the Detective Division Commander will write a memorandum delineating visitation privileges for the prisoner. It will specify which visitors and what personal items, if any, the prisoner may receive.
- Visitors not listed on the visitation memorandum will be directed to contact the Detective Division Commander or the Watch Commander. Unauthorized visits will not be permitted.
- Proof of identity of visitors will be required.
- Visitors may be subjected to a pat search.
- The police guard will maintain visual contact with the visitor and prisoner during visitation.
- There will be a reasonable time limit on visitations which may be extended for the attorney.
- No more than one person will be allowed to visit at one time.
- No physical contact between a prisoner and a visitor will be permitted.
- No gifts/personal articles will be given to prisoner unless approved by the Detective Division Commander/Watch Commander. If approval has been granted, the item(s) must be searched.
- Termination of the visit for the prisoner's welfare or due to conduct or conditions detrimental to efficient hospital operations will be at the discretion of hospital personnel or the police guard.
- Visits will be confined to hours set by hospital.
- The prisoner/surroundings will be searched at the conclusion of each visit.

Activity Log

A log will be maintained by officers and will include following:

1. Prisoner name, case number, date and watch
2. Arrival and departure times of visitors
3. Full names of visitors/hospital employees

4. Addresses of visitors/ job titles of hospital employees
5. Who authorized visitors/type of service or activity rendered by hospital personnel
6. Guarding officer's name and badge number
7. Completed hospital logs will be reviewed and signed by a supervisor (to be filed with case).

Telephone Calls

Telephone calls will be limited to those outlined under NRS 171.153 "Right of Person to Make Telephone Calls."

Telephones will be removed from bedside except when in use in accordance with NRS 171.153.

Prisoners will not receive telephone calls. Any callers will be advised of this and messages relayed to the prisoners.

Calls made by prisoners will be logged on the Hospital Prisoner Visitor Log (see form, attached).

Special Circumstances

Officer should be aware of special circumstances which may require extraordinary arrangements or considerations. These include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- Provision of an alias for a prisoner to block public access.
- The need for extra security for high-escape risks or violent subjects. This may call for two or more officers to guard the prisoner during rehabilitation exercises.
- The rotation of police guards as often as three times in one shift to avoid complacency.
- The need to keep potentially violent prisoners or prisoners kept in restraints under constant observation.

Police Holds

Generally, a hold will not be placed on a hospitalized subject without the presence of a police guard. An exception to this may be a request, if a warrant is pending, to have the hospital contact RPD before releasing a patient. Under this circumstance, the hospital will call RPD, but their personnel will not be held responsible for keeping a released patient from leaving.

PRISONER'S PHONE CALL RECORD

DATE_____ TIME_____ CHARGE/CASE#

PRISONER'S NAME:

PERSON TO BE CALLED:_____ PHONE #

PERSON TO BE CALLED:_____ PHONE #

OFFICER:_____ TIME__ COMPLETE_ INCOMPLETE

This form is to be filled out by the prisoner. If the writing is not legible, the police guard will print over the writing.

DATE_____ TIME_____ CHARGE/CASE#

PRISONER'S NAME:

PERSON TO BE CALLED:_____ PHONE #

PERSON TO BE CALLED:_____ PHONE #

OFFICER:_____ TIME__ COMPLETE_ INCOMPLETE

This form is to be filled out by the prisoner. If the writing is not legible, the police guard will print over the writing.

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PERSON TO BE CALLED:_____ PHONE #

PERSON TO BE CALLED:_____ PHONE #

OFFICER:_____ TIME__ COMPLETE_ INCOMPLETE

This form is to be filled out by the prisoner. If the writing is not legible, the police guard will print over the writing.

OFFICER/BADGE# _____ SUPERVISOR

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