

BATON ROUGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

General Order
No.213

Effective Date
03-01-1996

Revised Date
11-02-2009

Subject: Departmental Temporary Detention Facilities Reviewed 9/1/16

POLICY

It is the policy of this department to provide proper training, instruction, and maintenance for safe operation of its temporary detention facilities and the personnel who are involved in the operation of those facilities.

DEFINITIONS

Temporary Detention

Facilities that may detain or hold persons for a period not to exceed two hours in a room, space, or area for the purpose of processing, questioning, or testing. In circumstances when a detainee is shackled to an immovable object designed and intended for such use, the restraint period may not exceed two hours.

PROCEDURES

I. Restraining Devices

If a detainee is to be secured to an immovable object, only bars or rings designed for such purpose shall be used.

II. Supervision/Observation

- A. A prisoner may be held in temporary detention without continuous control or supervision for no longer than two (2) hours.
- B. In order to prevent escape, any prisoner left unattended or unobserved in temporary detention, regardless of the length of time, must be restrained by the use of a bar or ring designed for such purpose.
- C. Prisoners held in any departmental detention facility shall not be left unobserved or unsupervised for more than 15 minutes at a time.
- D. Any officer placing a person in temporary detention for the purpose of processing, questioning or testing will be responsible and accountable for the supervision, safety, and security of the detainee. Officers can only use those designated areas at Headquarters, CIB Annex, and District's. The interview rooms, testing areas, and processing areas will be conspicuously marked.
- E. Officers will document the reason and date and time in and out of the facility. If a meal is provided to a prisoner, officers will also document those events.

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III. Safety/Security

- A. Any officer placing a person in temporary detention will conduct a search for weapons or contraband prior to their detention.
- B. Officers involved in the processing, questioning or testing of detainees will secure their weapons (including firearms, knives, impact weapons, ASR, etc.) in an appropriate facility separated from and not accessible to persons being detained.
- C. Any officer placing a person in temporary detention will conduct a visual inspection of the detention area prior to placement of the detainee to check for weapons or contraband left in the area. An administrative review of the detention areas and procedures will be conducted at least once every three years.
- D. Access to persons being detained, or to the area in which they are confined shall be limited to law enforcement officials and emergency personnel.
- E. If detention areas are not equipped with panic or duress alarms, officers handling or questioning detainees while unobserved by other officers shall be equipped with a departmental two-way radio in order to summon assistance should an emergency arise.

IV. General

- A. If males and females are to be detained at the same time, they shall either be placed in separate rooms or be separated as far from each other as possible. If detained in the same room, they shall not be left unattended at any time.
- B. Rooms or areas used for temporary detention shall provide for the basic comfort needs of those being detained, and detainees shall be allowed timely access to such needs as water, restrooms and medical assistance.
- C. Persons under the influence of alcohol or other drugs or who are violent or self-destructive shall only be placed in temporary detention if unavoidable, and shall not be left unattended at any time.
- D. All temporary detention areas shall be monitored via closed screen TV/ recording devices.
- E. Shift supervisors shall be responsible for granting authority for any use of a departmental temporary detention facility during their shift. Shift supervisors shall also be responsible for ensuring that subordinates maintain safety and security while using such facilities.

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- F. Officers with any responsibility for detainees in temporary custody shall receive training in areas related to the security and safety of detainees such as emergency evacuation and fire suppression.
- G. Each commander of a division/section containing temporary detention facilities shall be responsible for the posting and maintenance of an Emergency Action Plan and Emergency Evacuation Plan which include guidelines for fire prevention, fire suppression, and emergency evacuation.