



SOUTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER: 19.3	DATE OF ISSUE: July 31, 2011	EFFECTIVE DATE: May 14, 2014	NUMBER OF PAGES: 04
CFA STANDARD: 31 SUBJECT: Criminal Investigation - INTERVIEWS	NEW (X) RESCINDS (X) AMENDS () OTHER ()	By Order Of:  Rene Landa, CHIEF OF POLICE	

CFA STANDARDS:
SECTIONS:

- 19.3.1 Removal of Detainees to Interview Room**
- 19.3.2 Security Measures**
- 19.3.3 Continuous Supervision of Detainees**

RESCINDS: All existing orders in conflict.

PURPOSE: To establish departmental policy and provide guidelines for information development; interviews and interrogation; procedures for the collection, preservation and use of physical evidence; execution of suspect background investigations, search warrants, and surveillance.

SCOPE: All departmental employees.

POLICY: It is the policy of the South Miami Police Department and the Detective Bureau (CID) to provide administrative and operational programs that result in efficient and effective criminal investigations. The role and responsibility of the Detective Bureau is to conduct preliminary, follow-up, and special investigations. Included within this process is the objective of establishing an information base of criminal activity encompassing the identification and apprehension of offenders.

DEFINITIONS:

CID: Criminal Investigations Unit. Comprised of GIU and SIU.

GIU: General Investigations Unit.

Major Offenses: Major Offenses include death investigations, sexual assaults or sex related felony offenses, robbery investigations, sophisticated burglaries, arsons, organized crime activities, kidnappings, and home invasions.

SIU: Special Investigations Unit; Formerly VIN Unit (Vice, Intelligence and Narcotics).

PROCEDURE:

19.3.1 Removal of Detainees to Interview Room

The primary room where detainees or prisoners will be interviewed is the CID interview room located on the second floor. Exigent circumstances may require a detainee to be interviewed in the field or in some other location, but the CID interview room will be utilized when there are no other circumstances involved. Detainees or prisoners removed from holding cells will be escorted to the CID interview room by a sworn member.

- A. Detainees or prisoners will be under continuous control and observation at all times by a sworn member.
- B. Detainees or prisoners will not be chained or secured to any furniture or item in the CID interview room except the benches which are designed for that purpose; if the detainee or prisoner is violent, the detainee or prisoner will be interviewed in the holding cell area.
- C. Authorization for the use of the room, space, or area is not necessary, Detectives may use this room at their discretion. Members are accountable for the suspects, detainees, or prisoners they maintain control of.
- D. Separation of female, male, and juvenile prisoners/detainees will be maintained while interviews are conducted.
- E. Access to water, restrooms, and other needs are the responsibility of the Detective conducting the interview. Prisoners using the second floor restroom will be accompanied and continuous control maintained. Beverages may be given at the discretion of the Detective, except in DUI cases where nothing by mouth will be given.
- F. Training: SMPD GO 19.3 will serve as a training guide for members; Updates will be made via memo, roll call training, or The Transitions Newsletter.
- G. If there are adult prisoners in the cell area, and a juvenile is arrested, the juvenile will be held in the CID interview room until transport to the JAC.
- H. Leg cuffs will be supplied to secure prisoners to the benches. One cuff will be secured to the bench, and one will be secured to the prisoner's wrist.
- I. Keys for the CID area will be available via KeyTrak.

19.3.2 Security Measures

- A. Search of the suspects, detainees, or prisoners: suspects, detainees, or prisoners will be searched in the holding cell area prior to being brought to the CID interview room.
- B. Authorized access: Only detectives, supervisors, and sworn members who are participating in the investigation may enter the CID interview room when suspects or prisoners are being interviewed there, and at the discretion of the detective conducting the interview.
- C. Control of weapons: When detectives, supervisors, or sworn members are in the holding cell area, they will secure firearms in the gun lockers provided for that purpose; detectives, supervisors, or sworn members will ensure that while in the CID interview room, the usual standard of care is taken to prevent suspects, detainees, or prisoners from gaining access to their firearms/weapons. Firearms **are** permitted in the CID interview room.
- D. Escape prevention: every effort will be made to ensure that suspects, detainees, or prisoners are not able to escape custody while being interviewed. A second Detective, a Supervisor or Officer is desirable when an interview is taking place, even if this backup is waiting outside.
- E. The prisoner or detainee's property will be kept in the holding cell area during the interview.
- F. Control of the suspects, detainees, or prisoners during medical or other emergency situations, i.e. fires, floods, or power failures: When practicable, prisoners will be returned to the holding cell area during emergency situations. If the building becomes uninhabitable, due to smoke, etc., the prisoner may be housed in the prisoner van under direct supervision (continuous control) with the engine running and the air conditioning on.
- G. Plan for fire prevention, evacuation, and suppression: If a fire occurs in the building, prisoners are to be secured in the above manner. The safety and security of the prisoner is most important. One member should be in control of the prisoner, while another member extinguishes the fire and notifies communications and the shift commander. No smoking is allowed in the building at any time.
- H. Panic or duress alarms: At least one member shall have a police handheld radio while a prisoner is being interviewed in the CID interview room, or while adding a prisoner to or removing a prisoner from the holding cell. The red "315" button shall serve as a panic or duress alarm.

- I. Security inspections: A sworn member shall conduct a visual security inspection of the CID interview room to ensure that no weapons or objects that can be used as weapons are present, and that windows are secured.
- J. No interviews of prisoners will be conducted in the first floor report writing room; this room is used for gathering information from victims only.

19.3.3 Continuous Supervision of Detainees

- A. Detainees or prisoners will be under continuous control and observation at all times by a sworn member
- B. Detainees or prisoners will not be left unattended for any reason.
- C. If a situation arises that necessitates leaving a detainee or prisoner alone, the member will return the person to a cell in the holding area (a sworn officer must remain in the station any time someone is in a cell).
- D. During the 6 hour period noted on the Prisoner Area Check Sheet, if a prisoner is being interviewed and in continuous control, then on the half-hour, the check sheet may be initialed by the interviewer, or the arresting officer or other sworn member, so as to reflect that the person was observed visually at least once every 30 minutes.
- E. As stated on the Prisoner Area Check Sheet, if prisoner is to be held over 6 hours, notification must be made to Shift Commander.