



G.O. Number: 30.2	Subject: Prisoner Transportation-Restraining Devices-WRAP	
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- SECTIONS:**
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PURPOSE: To establish guidelines for restraining prisoners while in the care, custody and control of the South Miami Police Department.

SCOPE: All departmental personnel.

POLICY: To safeguard all prisoners and officers by ensuring that they are secured by restraints whenever feasible.

DEFINITIONS:

Prisoner: Individual who is under arrest, or awaiting disposition of their case while incarcerated or under the physical control of the department.

WRAP Restraint: Designed as a temporary restraining device. It immobilizes the body and restricts a subject’s ability to kick or do harm to oneself and others. The WRAP minimizes the time required to secure a person safely, restrains the subject in an upright position, and has the subject prepared for transport or movement.

30.2.1 Prisoner Restraint Requirements

Except for prisoners requiring alternative restraints for physical reasons, all prisoners will be restrained during transport.

- A. The primary purpose of using handcuffs and other restraints is to:
 - 1. Maintain control of the arrestee.
 - 2. Provide safety for the officer, the arrestee, and the public.
 - 3. Minimize the possibility of the situation escalating.

- B. Authorized restraints provided and approved by the South Miami Police Department consist of, but are not limited to, the following:
 - 1. Double locking handcuffs
 - 2. Plastic disposable flex cuffs
 - 3. WRAP device

- C. Double-locking handcuffs, case, and key(s) will be carried by all sworn personnel in uniform.
 - 1. Sworn personnel in plain clothes (Detectives) who handle prisoners will also carry handcuffs.
 - 2. All handcuffs used will be Smith and Wesson, Peerless, ASP, Hiatt's, or Thompson hinged or chain steel cuffs.
 - 3. All personnel will be responsible for the efficient operation of their handcuffs. Handcuffs must be checked frequently, cleaned, and lubricated to prevent any malfunction in times of emergency.

- D. **Handcuffs will be used in ALL physical arrests and during the handling and transporting of all prisoners already in custody.** Officers/detectives should use handcuffs any time they have reason to believe it is necessary for the safety of the public and fellow officers. The officer is responsible for protecting himself/herself, the public, and the prisoner. An officer's judgment should not be swayed by the prisoner's apparent cooperative attitude, nor should they assume that restraining devices are unnecessary for disabled prisoners.
 - 1. Handcuffs will be used when prisoners or suspects are within the police station. When handcuffs are removed (i.e. for interviews and lineups) the suspect/prisoner must remain in the presence of an officer.

2. When handcuffs are utilized, they will be placed on the suspects as soon as the suspects are under control. Handcuffs will be securely locked (double locked) behind the prisoner's back with the prisoner's palms turned outward to minimize the potential of harm or escape. A check will be made to determine that the handcuffs are not placed so tightly on the person's wrists as to cause physical harm. Handcuffs will remain on until the prisoner is delivered inside a place of confinement. When possible, the prisoner's belt may be passed through handcuffs to prevent the prisoner from stepping through their arms and bringing the handcuffs in front of them.
3. When only handcuffs are used, officers will maintain physical control over the prisoner by securely holding onto the prisoner's handcuffs while walking.
4. The three methods of speed cuffing (standing, prone, and kneeling) will be utilized when appropriate.
 - a. Standing techniques are used for low-risk, compliant subjects
 - b. Prone techniques are used for high-risk, non-compliant subjects
 - c. Kneeling techniques are used for unknown risk situations or when space is limited.
5. If prisoners are sick, injured, mentally or physically handicapped and handcuffs are impractical due to the condition of the prisoners, alternate restraining devices (i.e. flex cuffs) should be utilized unless the condition of the prisoner renders them harmless.
 - a. Extreme care must be taken to ensure that the use of the restraining devices will not worsen the condition or injury of the prisoner.
 - b. Anytime prisoners become sick or injured, their condition must be checked by medical personnel (i.e. Miami-Dade Fire/Rescue, doctor, emergency medical technician, paramedic, or registered nurse) when it is safe and practical.
6. All prisoners will be handcuffed or otherwise restrained during transport. Under no circumstances will a prisoner be handcuffed or manacled to the inside of a vehicle.

7. If it becomes necessary to handcuff two (2) prisoners with one pair of handcuffs, the procedure used will be as follows:
 - a. Handcuff the right hand of one prisoner to the right hand of the other prisoner. The awkwardness of their positioning will discourage prisoners from fleeing on foot.
 - b. Barring exigent circumstances, upon arrival of a second officer, the prisoners should be handcuffed individually following the procedures outlined above in Section D.-2.
 - c. Officers are encouraged to carry 2 or more pairs of handcuffs.
 - d. Officers are issued 1 pair of handcuffs; an additional pair is to be purchased by the officer individually if desired.
 - e. Flex cuffs are also supplied by the department. Officers are encouraged to have them available.
 8. If the prisoner continues to resist in a physical and/or aggressive manner, officers should use appropriate techniques (i.e. less-lethal devices like chemical OC spray, TASERS ECD) to control the prisoner while minimizing the risk of injury to the prisoner or officer(s) This only applies if the the prisoner is **NOT HANDCUFFED** (see General Order 1.3 Response to Resistance).
- E.** If violent self-destructive behavior (i.e. prisoner beating head on the window or cage) officers should use appropriate techniques to control the prisoner while minimizing the risk of injury to the prisoner or officer(s). Officers shall use the WRAP in these situations. (see General Order 1.3 Response to Resistance).
- F.** Restraints during transport:
1. The transportation of a prisoner will be accomplished using that degree of restraint deemed necessary to complete the task safely. This includes the restraint of prisoners under special transport situations (sick, injured, or disabled, etc.) which is outlined in General Order 30.3, Section 30.3.2.
 2. During transport, all arrested persons will be handcuffed with their hands behind their backs. In extreme cases, 2 or 3 sets of handcuffs may be linked to allow the hands to be cuffed behind the back.
 3. If linking 2 or 3 sets of handcuffs behind the back still does not facilitate safe transport a prisoner van may be obtained from another department

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4. Exceptions may exist in not being able to transport prisoners by police vehicle. In such cases, it may be necessary to request ambulatory transport. A police officer will be inside of the ambulance, while the prisoner is being transported. These exceptions are not limited to the following:
 - a. Those persons who are crippled or otherwise incapacitated
 - b. Elderly or ill persons arrested for minor offenses
 - c. Extremely obese

30.2.2 WRAP RESTRAINT REQUIREMENTS

- A. Prisoners requiring an alternative restraint for physical reasons.
- B. The primary purpose in utilizing the WRAP Restraint is to
 1. Maintain control of the arrestee.
 2. Provide safety for the officer, the arrestee, the public, and
 3. Minimize the possibility of the situation escalating.

30.2.3 USE/DOCUMENTATION

- A. The WRAP may be used, before or after a violent or potentially violent/combatative subject is controlled using approved departmental methods. It is recommended that a supervisor be on the scene when the WRAP is being deployed. Officers should not assume that the WRAP is escape-proof. Once applied, the subject shall not be left unattended.
- B. All observation checks on a subject in the WRAP shall be documented in the Offense Incident Report and will include the following:
 1. The time, the subject was placed in the WRAP and the name of the supervisor who was notified of this action.
 2. If necessary, the time the subject was examined by Miami Dade Fire Rescue and the results of the examination.
 3. The demeanor and attitude of the subject while in the WRAP, i.e. still violent, calming down, or becoming more aggressive.

- C Response to Resistance Report shall be completed with every use of the WRAP. Guidelines from G.O. 1.3.6 shall be followed.

30.2.4 DEPLOYMENT

- A. The WRAP may be considered for use in the following situations:
 1. Whenever an officer anticipates possible violent/combative behavior due to observations of the subject's agitated state or increasing verbal and physical violence.
 2. To immobilize a violent/combative subject.
 3. To limit violent/combative subjects from causing injury to themselves or others.
 4. To prevent violent/combative subjects from causing property damage.
 5. When conventional methods of restraint are not effective.
 6. When transporting violent/combative subjects.
 7. To assist in cell extraction of violent/combative subjects.

- B. Once the subject is properly restrained in the WRAP, the subject shall be placed On their side or in a sitting position. This will increase the oxygen recovery rate and reduce the incidence of respiratory fatigue or positional asphyxia.
 1. A minimum of (2) two officers shall be used to apply the WRAP Restraint.
 2. Violent/combative subjects, (3) three or more officers should be used.

30.2.5 TRANSPORTATION

1. The movement of a subject can be accomplished in (2) two ways
Depending on the cooperation of the subject:
 - A. **Carrying the Subject:**
 - a. Minimum of (2) two officers used to depend on the size and weight of the subject.

- b. Lift the subject by the arms and ankles (carrying handles located near the legs).
- c. "Log lift" carrying technique may be used when moving the subject.
- d. Proper lifting techniques shall be followed to prevent unnecessary injury.

B. Shuffle:

- a. Lower wrap band may be loosened to allow some leg movement below the knees.
- b. Loosening the tether to the shoulder harness, subject can be brought to a standing position.
- c. Appropriate support must be given to the subject to prevent possible injury.

C. Vehicle Transport:

- a. Recheck all belts to ensure that they are securely fastened.
- b. Seatbelts will be used to limit movement and reduce risk of injury to the subject.

30.2.6 PRECAUTIONS

1. The following precautions must be observed:

- A.** Shoulder harness shall never be tightened to the point that it interferes with the subject's ability to breathe.
- B.** The leg bands and shoulder harness must be checked frequently for tightness and either be tightened or loosened as necessary until the WRAP is removed.
- C.** If restrained, the subject complains of or shows signs of breathing Distress (shortness of breath, sudden calmness, a change in facial color, etc.) Miami Dade Fire Department will be immediately notified and attempted to render aid.

- D. Subject shall never be left unattended while in the WRAP.**
- E. Subject shall be placed in an upright sitting position or on their side as soon as possible.
- F. WRAP is a temporary restraining device and is not escape-proof.
- G. WRAP shall not be used on known pregnant subjects.**

30.2.7 TRAINING

- 1. Only qualified officers who have completed the department's training in the use of the WRAP shall use this restraining device.

30.2.8 CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- 1. The following guidelines will be followed:
 - a. WRAP shall be inspected after each use for signs of wear and damage.
 - b. If damage is discovered, the WRAP shall be forwarded to the Training Officer for repair or replacement.
 - c. If cleaning is necessary after use, a mild soapy solution or disinfectant approved for use on vinyl and nylon materials shall be used.
 - d. Thoroughly rinse all disinfectant from the unit, before drying.
 - e. When WRAP is cleaned, it must be thoroughly dried before being returned to its carrying bag.

30.2.9 STORAGE/RE-USE

- 1. The following procedures shall be followed:
 - A.** WRAP will be stored in the Patrol Utility Office.
- 2. **A.** WRAP packaging important for immediate use:
 - a. Lay WRAP on a flat surface with leg band side up and detach

shoulder harness. Extend each of the leg bands out flat.

- b. Individually fold each leg band back onto itself so that the fold of the band protrudes an inch or two from the edge of the WRAP body.
- c. The retaining “D” ring on the body of the WRAP and the harness is open and ready for use.
- d. Keeping the bands inside, roll the WRAP tightly towards the buckle and secure with the ankle strap and place into carrying bag.
- e. Fully extend the harness buckles and tether. Attach buckles to its counterpart and roll the harness up and place it in the carrying bag compartment.