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Sobering Cell  
Intoxicated Person  
Medical Transfers

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SOBERING CELL

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I. POLICY

- A. The use of the Sobering Cell will be carefully controlled and monitored in order to ensure its proper utilization.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. SOBERING CELL -- Located in the booking areas of both buildings, these rooms are specially designed and equipped for inmates who are a threat to their own safety or the safety of others due to their state of alcohol and/or drug intoxication.
- B. INTOXICATED PERSON -- A person who appears to be, or displays the objective symptoms of being, under the influence of alcohol or drugs or a combination of both, and who appears to be unable to care for his own safety and/or the safety of other persons.

III. PROCEDURES

- A. The Sobering Cell may be utilized to hold a maximum of ten (10) arrestees in Building One Main Detention Facility and three (3) arrestees in Building Two Detention Facility.
1. An assessment will be made to determine compatibility if more than one arrestee is placed in the Sobering Cell.
- a. If determined that there is an incompatibility problem, other housing options will be utilized.

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SOBERING CELL

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- B. All arrestees placed in the Sobering Cell will be pat searched for weapons and/or contraband prior to their placement. All articles of personal property, other than clothing, will be removed from arrestees prior to placement in the Sobering Cell.
  - 1. Arrestees placed in the Sobering Cell will not be allowed to possess belts, shoes; bulky clothing articles that would hinder our ability to observe vital body functions, and other articles that could cause injury or damage.
- C. The cell light is to remain on when cell is in use.
- D. Upon placement of an arrestee into the Sobering Cell, the initiating deputy will start an "Observation Log."
  - 1. Once it is determined that the arrestee is going to be placed into the Sobering Cell, use the Observation Log to document the justification for placement. On the log, circle all of the observations that apply Unsteady/Staggering, Confusion, Incoherent/Excessive Talking, and Odor of Alcohol.
- E. Intermittent direct visual supervision will be provided at least twice every thirty (30) minutes and noted on the "Observation Log."
  - 1. Audio and video monitoring can also be provided through Control in each Corrections facility.
- F. The inmate shall be aroused every hour and give adequate answers to questions to determine the inmate's well being. Annotate "Observation Log" to document such arousals and responses.
  - 1. Observation logs will become a permanent part of the inmate's 'Classification' file after the inmate is removed from the Sobering Cell.
- G. In all cases where an arrestee is placed in the Sobering Cell, the facility nurse or physician will within one (1) hour of placement or at the first opportunity, whichever is earlier, look at the arrestee's condition and submit an opinion for the arrestee's continued retention in such room or the arrestee's removal.
- H. The Shift Supervisor will review the arrestee's condition within six (6) hours of placement and document an opinion for the arrestee's continued retention in the Sobering Cell, or the arrestee's removal from the Sobering Cell.

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SOBERING CELL

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1. An inmate shall not remain in a Sobering Cell over six hours between reviews without an evaluation by a medical staff person or a review by the Facility Supervisor.
- I. Arrestees will be removed from the Sobering Cell as soon as it is determined that they are able to continue in the booking process.
  - J. MEDICAL TRANSFER
    1. Whenever an intoxicated arrestee becomes medically at-risk, the arrestee will be immediately transferred to the nearest medical facility for evaluation and treatment.
    2. Upon transferring an intoxicated arrestee to a medical facility, a Corrections Division Incident Report will be prepared by the reporting Corrections Deputy.
    3. Medical staff will send a copy of all known medical information will be transferred with the arrestee to the medical facility to ensure an accurate evaluation of the inmate's physical condition.
    4. Medical staff will contact the facilities housing inmates for an update regarding their mental/physical status.
      - a. Medical staff will notify the Facility Supervisor as to status of the inmate.
    5. As inmates are cleared to return to the Corrections facilities, Transportation shall be advised, or the Facility Supervisor can have Corrections Deputies return the inmates.

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