

7-03/000.15 Security Restraints in Mental Health Housing

Security Restraints in High Observation Housing (HOH), Moderate Observation Housing (MOH), and for inmates awaiting housing assignment in the Correctional Treatment Center (CTC), will not be used as an alternative to mental health treatment and will be used only when necessary to ensure safety. Security restraints will not be used to punish inmates. Custody personnel assigned to HOH and MOH will consider a range of security restraint devices and utilize the least restrictive option, for the least amount of time necessary to provide safety in these areas. When fixed restraints are used in HOH, MOH, or for inmates awaiting placement in CTC, custody personnel will maintain unobstructed visual observation of the inmate. Unobstructed visual observation means continuous but not necessarily uninterrupted observation within a reasonable physical distance of the inmate(s). While maintaining unobstructed visual observation, custody personnel are permitted to perform other routine tasks if the at-risk inmate(s) remain in view with clear sight lines.

When an HOH or MOH inmate in security restraints becomes recalcitrant, a sergeant shall be notified immediately. The sergeant shall respond to the location and handle the inmate as described in Custody Division Manual (CDM) section 7-02/020.00 "Handling Insubordinate, Recalcitrant, Hostile, or Aggressive Inmates." Custody personnel shall not remove fixed restraints from a recalcitrant inmate except at the direction of a supervisor of the rank of sergeant (or higher). If the inmate appears to be in mental health crisis, custody staff will immediately refer the inmate to Department of Mental Health (DMH) personnel.