7-03/080.20 En Route Procedures

Deputy personnel shall be aware that all situations cannot be anticipated and, therefore, generalization is unavoidable.

Unusual activity on a vehicle shall be investigated immediately. If necessary, drive directly to the nearest law enforcement facility for assistance.

Inmates will frequently kick at windows in escape attempts. Bus crews should be especially alert for loud noises, and movement of inmates from the front to the rear of the vehicle.

During hours of darkness, the aisle lights in the bus shall remain on. Faulty lights shall be reported as soon as the bus returns to Headquarters.

Mirrors are not to be relied upon as the only method of viewing inmates on a bus. Security Deputies are primarily responsible for the security of the inmates when the bus is en route between locations. It is essential that the Security Deputy maintain frequent or constant visual surveillance of the inmates when the bus is en route, and that the Security Deputy or Driver maintain direct visual surveillance when the bus is parked.

Vehicles are not to be considered as secure holding areas. Inmates shall not be left unattended in a Transportation Bureau vehicle, with the exception of morning Courtline.

In the event of a disturbance or medical emergency, Deputies shall not enter the inmate area without sufficient backup. If necessary, drive to the nearest law enforcement facility for assistance.

Fire and Collision

- It is not possible to list specific guidelines for fires or collisions. Inmate security and officer safety are the primary concerns. Do not hesitate to request Code 3 assistance, if you feel it is warranted. If there is imminent danger of fire or explosion after a collision, unload the inmates as quickly as possible. When the inmates are safely away from the danger and it is necessary to enhance security, use additional chains or handcuffs if they are available.
- If there is smoke or fire while en route, consider the option of driving to the nearest fire station or law enforcement facility.