

5-01-150 Handling of Recalcitrant Inmates

Reviewed Date: 05-19-26

Reference: MPP 3-10/100.00; CDM 3-04/000.00, 7-02/020.00, 7-04/000.00, 7-06/000.00

PURPOSE OF ORDER:

The purpose of this order is to establish procedures regarding the handling of insubordinate, recalcitrant and/or aggressive inmates at Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) South Facility.

SCOPE OF ORDER:

This order applies to all personnel assigned to, and working at PDC South Facility.

ORDER:

A recalcitrant inmate is defined as any inmate who refuses to follow instructions, fails to submit to discipline and/or control, and/or displays hostile or aggressive behavior.

The primary concern when dealing with a recalcitrant inmate is the safety of the staff and inmates. Inmates who display such behavior pose the greatest danger to staff and other inmates. Personnel encountering such inmates shall be guided by the following:

- When it becomes necessary to move a recalcitrant inmate to prevent the escalation of a situation, or the need to separate the inmate from any setting (i.e., holding area, cell, day room, yard, etc.), personnel shall request a supervisor to respond and monitor the contact prior to movement.

NOTE: In the instance of an immediate threat of physical harm and/or the need for immediate intervention, custody personnel shall not be restricted from taking appropriate action, including the use of force, in any situation where an unsecured inmate threatens their safety. Should the need arise to use force, all personnel shall immediately contact a supervisor at the conclusion of the incident and follow procedures delineated in the Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP), Section 3-10/100.00 and Custody Division Manual (CDM) 7-06/000.00, "Use of Force Reporting Procedures."

- Supervisors who are notified of such incidents described herein shall immediately respond to the location of the incident and make appropriate notifications as needed (e.g., Watch Commander, emergency response team [ERT], etc.).
- At no time, unless life threatening conditions are present, shall personnel make an attempt to remove an uncooperative, aggressive, hostile or armed inmate from a secure holding area/cell without the direction of a supervisor. Personnel are reminded that time is on their side in these situations. A planned tactical

approach to the situation will greatly reduce the possibility of physical confrontation or injuries. All Department members shall strictly adhere to the Manual of Policy and Procedures, Section 5-05/090.00, Escorting Procedures for Combative or Uncooperative Inmates.

- Once the inmate has been confronted and/or handcuffed, the inmate shall be kept in normal traffic areas and not be taken to secluded areas. The inmate shall be secured in an appropriate holding area/cell until a supervisor arrives.
- Recalcitrant inmates shall be properly handcuffed and searched prior to movement.
- Inmates who are uncooperative and combative, or have a history of making false allegations, shall be escorted by two Department members, one member being a supervisor. The movement shall be videotaped.

Personnel involved in an incident/altercation with a recalcitrant inmate shall not be part of the escorting team. Refer to CDM 7-04/000.00, "Escorting Procedures for Combative or Uncooperative Inmates."

Revision Date 03/24/21

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