

## **DIRECTIVE 70.1 TRANSPORT OPERATIONS**

<b>Issue Date: 06/18/2025</b>	<b>By Order of Chief of Police</b>
<b>Rescinds: (Issue 05/14/2020)</b>	<b>CALEA Standards Referenced: 70.1.1; 70.1.2; 70.1.3; 70.1.4; 70.1.5; 70.1.6; 70.1.7 &amp; 70.1.8</b>
<b>Pages: 5</b>	<b>Review: March 2026</b>

**This directive consists of the following sections:**

- 70.1.1 Pre-Transport Prisoner Searches**
- 70.1.2 Searching Transport Vehicles**
- 70.1.3 Procedures, Transporting by Vehicle**
- 70.1.4 Interruption of Transport**
- 70.1.5 Prisoner Communication**
- 70.1.6 Procedures, Transport Destination**
- 70.1.7 Procedures, Escape**
- 70.1.8 Notify Court of Security Risk**

### **POLICY AND PROCEDURE:**

It is the policy of the Miami Township Police Department that all detainees, regardless of sex, age, race, apparent or obvious threat, or the nature of the offense committed, shall be thoroughly searched prior to being transported by officers of this department. It is further the policy of the Department that the below delineated procedures shall be followed to provide for officer safety, maintain continual observation of detainees, limit communications by detainees, transfer of detainees and dealing with escaped or high-risk detainees. All members of the Department shall abide by the provisions of this directive.

Miami Township Police Department transports prisoners from the point of arrest to the Miami Township Police Department, the Clermont County Jail, the Clermont County Juvenile Detention Center or a medical care facility. In all of these transport situations, continual observation of the prisoner is maintained unless specifically exempted under provisions of 70.1.4, 70.2.1, 70.3.1 & 70.3.2. Miami Township does not make transports requiring the pick-up or transfer of prisoners from other agencies or the courts. Those transport requirements are the responsibility of the Clermont County Sheriff's Office.

#### **70.1.1 Pre-Transport Prisoner Searches**

Every prisoner who is to be transported in a police vehicle will be searched by the transporting officer prior to be transported.

When transporting a prisoner of the opposite sex or a juvenile, the officer shall notify the dispatcher of the transport, including the transport vehicle's current mileage and the intended destination. Upon arrival, the officer shall advise the dispatcher of the vehicle's ending mileage and confirm the exact destination. Officers must ensure the rear in-car camera is activated and recording the prisoner throughout the transport (41.3.8). If the transport is delayed or interrupted for any reason, the officer shall immediately notify the dispatcher of the delay, provide the reason, and relay any other pertinent information.

#### **70.1.2 Searching Transport Vehicles**

At the beginning of each shift, the assigned officer shall examine the police vehicle for damage; ensure that the vehicle is in safe operating condition, properly equipped and that all equipment and accessories are in working order.

- The officer shall ensure that functional restraints are in working order and that the vehicle is equipped with the department authorized restraint devices.
- The officer shall ensure that the vehicle contains the proper safety items such as flares, first aid kit and infectious disease control supplies. It shall be the officer's responsibility to replace these items as necessary to maintain an adequate supply.

Before and after transport of a prisoner, a search will be conducted to ensure that no contraband is in the vehicle before the prisoner is transported and that the prisoner has not left any property or contraband in the vehicle.

#### **70.1.3 Procedures, Transporting by Vehicle**

Vehicles used primarily for transporting prisoners will have a safety barrier present that separates the driver from the prisoner. Officers will sit in the front seat and prisoners will sit in the rear seat.

Should an exigent circumstance occur that requires the transport of a prisoner in an unmarked police vehicle without a safety barrier, the following shall occur:

- A single officer shall sit in the front seat and a single prisoner shall sit in the rear seat on the passenger side.
- A single officer transporting two prisoners shall seat both prisoners in the rear seat.
- Two officers transporting a single prisoner shall place the prisoner in the rear seat. Both officers shall sit in the front seat.

#### **70.1.4 Interruption of Transport**

Normally, Miami Township Police Department officers do not make any stops while transporting from the point of arrest to the Miami Township Police Department, the Clermont County Jail, the Clermont County Juvenile Detention Center or a medical care facility. Miami Township does not make long-distance transports requiring interruption

of the transport. The following incidents may occur during transport that requires interruption of the transport.

#### Prisoner Becomes Disorderly

If the prisoner does not pose a threat to the safe operation of the vehicle, the officer should continue to drive directly to the transport destination. The transporting officer should notify the Communications Center of the problem and request assistance at the transport destination for the removal of the prisoner.

If the prisoner poses a threat to the safe operation of the vehicle, the officer should pull to the side of the road; notify the Communications Center of the problem and the officer's exact location. The officer shall request assistance to secure the prisoner. The officer should exit the vehicle and wait for assistance to arrive. The officer should maintain watch on the prisoner and not open the prisoner compartment until another officer arrives to assist.

#### Transport Officer Encounters an Incident that Requires Police Assistance

The primary duty of the transporting officer is the safe delivery of the prisoner in custody.

An officer transporting a prisoner shall stop to render assistance only when there is a clear, immediate and grave risk of harm to a third party and only when no other police or other emergency services unit is readily available to render assistance.

Prior to assisting, the officer will notify the Communications Center of the identity of their unit, the status of transporting a prisoner and the location and nature of the incident, along with any specific information and a request for the appropriate aid.

The officer shall only remain until other emergency assistance has arrived.

Officers who are transporting prisoners shall not stop at or become involved in a situation that may potentially create a risk of harm to the prisoner.

#### 70.1.5 Prisoner Communication

A prisoner shall not be allowed to talk to anyone outside of the police vehicle during transport.

#### 70.1.6 Procedures, Transport Destination

##### *Securing Firearms for Safekeeping*

Transporting officers will make themselves aware of and follow the weapons procedure at the transport destination where he/she is discharging his/her prisoner. The transporting

officer will at no time enter a secure area or receiving area of a detention facility with a firearm, knife or other weapon of any type. If the facility does not have a place to secure weapons, i.e. lockers are at capacity, the officer shall secure weapons in the trunk of their police vehicle.

Medical facilities do not require that officers secure their weapons while in custody of a prisoner.

#### *Removal of Restraints from the Prisoner*

Restraints shall only be removed on the instructions of the receiving transport destination personnel at a detention facility.

Restraint removal exceptions at a medical facility shall be in compliance with 70.3.2.

#### *Delivering Documentation*

The transporting officer will be responsible for making sure all the necessary paperwork is properly exchanged with regard to the transfer.

#### *Advising Agency Personnel of Medical or Security Risks*

The transporting officer will advise the receiving agency personnel of any potential medical or security hazards involving the prisoner being transported.

#### *Documentation Confirming the Transfer of Custody*

The transporting officer will be responsible for obtaining a signature or other proper documentation for receipt of the prisoner.

### **70.1.7 Procedures, Escape**

If a prisoner escapes while being transported or while in the custody of an officer, the officer shall initiate the following actions.

#### *Persons to be Notified*

Immediately notify the Communications Center of the escape, the prisoner's name, description and any other pertinent information that can be quickly relayed to assist in the apprehension of the prisoner.

Have notification made to the agency or agencies in whose jurisdiction the escape has occurred, advising those agencies the information regarding the prisoner and requesting assistance.

Notification should also be made to the jurisdiction of the escapee's residence.

Have notification made to the Miami Township supervisor of the escape and of the developments in apprehending the escaped prisoner.

#### *Reports to be Prepared*

As soon as practical after the escape, the transporting officer will complete and file the appropriate reports detailing the incident. The report should be supplemented with a report of any department property damaged or taken in the offense.

#### *Further Action to be Taken*

Upon completion of the necessary reports the officer will file the appropriate criminal charges for escape and any other applicable violations of law connected with the escape.

Should the prisoner be immediately apprehended without assistance from other personnel, the transporting officer should have the assistance of at least one additional officer to assist with security and transportation of the prisoner.

#### **70.1.8 Notify Court of Security Risk**

Whenever there is an indication that a prisoner may be a potential hazard to the safety and security of anyone while undergoing transportation or confinement, this fact will be brought to the attention of the appropriate authority at the transport destination.

Specific reasons for this concern will be conveyed to the proper persons, such as escape risk, suicidal, mentally disturbed. This information shall be noted in writing on the detention facility commitment form or on the Application for Emergency Admission and Statement of Belief at the hospital.