

**LANCASTER POLICE DEPARTMENT
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL**

Effective Date September 2, 2015		Amended Date July 10, 2017		Directive 10.02.1	
Subject Medical Assistance for Prisoners					
Reference			Approved  Chief of Police		
Distribution All Personnel City Manager City Attorney		TPCA Best Practices Recognition Program Reference 10.01; 10.12		Review Date July 10, 2017	
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This Operations Directive is for internal use only and does not enhance an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as a creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this Operations Directive, if proven, may only form the basis for a complaint by this Department, and only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

SECTION 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to employees regarding medical treatment for injured or ill prisoners.

SECTION 2 POLICY

Occasionally, prisoners, while in the custody of the department, will sustain an injury or will be ill. In these instances, the department will assess the illness or injury and determine the best course of action for both the prisoner and the department. Prisoners will be constantly monitored to avoid medical or other difficulties and will seek medical attention in accordance with this directive. (TPCA 10.01f, 10.02d)

SECTION 3 PROCEDURES

A. INJURED OR ILL PERSONS IN CUSTODY (TPCA 10.01c, 10.12)

1. Officers must summon medical aid for any prisoner who is ill or who sustains injury prior to, during or after arrest. If, after examination by EMS personnel, transportation to the hospital is necessary, the prisoner will be taken either by ambulance or patrol car. Prisoners who refuse to be taken to the hospital will be instructed by EMS personnel to sign a refusal statement. The attending officer should obtain a copy of pertinent EMS records pertaining to the prisoner and leave it at Tri-City Jail along with all other related paperwork.
2. A written medical release, signed by the attending physician, must be obtained by the officer for any prisoner taken to a medical facility for treatment. This release must be obtained before the prisoner can be booked into the custody Tri-City Jail. If, in the attending physician's opinion, the arrestee must remain in the hospital, the arresting officer will notify the on-duty supervisor immediately.

B. REPORTING INJURY

1. Anytime a suspect or prisoner sustains an injury while in custody of the department, the member having control over the suspect or prisoner will immediately notify the on-duty supervisor and forward a written memorandum to the on-duty supervisor. The memorandum will include:

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- a. circumstances surrounding the injury;
 - b. nature of the injury;
 - c. medical attention received, if any, or if refused;
 - d. copy of the fire department's medical refusal form, if available;
 - e. names and statements of other officers or persons present during the incident
2. The supervisor receiving the report will investigate the circumstances surrounding the incident, including taking photographs of any injuries and the scene, and forward the findings to the Assistant Chief of Police, via chain-of-command.
3. If the injuries are due to the use of force by an officer, the officer will follow Directive 6.01.1, Lancaster Police Department General Orders Manual in reference to reporting and required paperwork.

B. PRISONERS WITH COMMUNICABLE DISEASE; BODILY FLUIDS

1. Transporting

- a. Prisoners who have a communicable disease or who have bodily fluids on them will not be transported with other persons.
- b. A prisoner may be required to wear a suitable protective covering if the person is bleeding or emitting bodily fluids.
- c. Any prisoner who is bleeding or emitting bodily fluids will be examined by EMS personnel before being transported. (TPCA 10.12)

2. Temporary Holding at Police Facility

- a. Persons taken into custody who have a communicable disease or have body fluids on them will not be taken to the police station.

3. Notification

- a. Officers have an obligation to notify relevant personnel during a prisoner transfer that body fluids are present on the prisoner or that the prisoner claims to be infected with a communicable disease. Officers will forewarn the detention center.

C. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

1. All members of the department shall know and comply with all aspects of this directive.
2. All Division Commanders and supervisory personnel are responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions and intent of this directive.