

Annapolis Police Department



GENERAL ORDER

Number: H.8

**Issue Date: January
2007**

TO: All Personnel

SUBJECT: Mass Arrests

PURPOSE

The purpose of this General Order is to establish guidelines in the event of a mass arrest situation.

POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Annapolis Police Department that the Incident Commander shall assess the potential for mass arrests. If the arrest of large numbers of people appears likely, the Incident Commander will appoint a ranking officer to coordinate and arrange for the activities outlined in this policy.

DEFINITIONS

1. **Incident Commander** - Officer having the rank of Lieutenant or higher.
2. **Command Post** - The command post is the center for all actions involved in the resolution of the situation. The Incident Commander will establish the command post. If the Emergency Operations Center is activated, it shall serve as the command post.

I. Required Action

A. Prisoner Restraint and Removal

1. Flex-cuffs will be used in place of handcuffs for temporary prisoner restraint. Unusually violent prisoners will be subdued and restrained with handcuffs and leg shackles. Prisoners who passively resist efforts to remove them will be removed by two or more officers picking the subject up, using the least amount of force to accomplish this.

2. When utilizing flex-cuffs, two flex-cuffs should be looped together, placing one flex-cuff on each wrist to avoid potential injury.

B. Identifying, Processing and Booking Arrestees; Evidence Collection

1. Evidence Technicians and/or officers designated for this assignment will be summoned and assigned to the staging area and will be available for evidence collection as directed by the Incident Commander.
2. Evidence Technicians and/or officers designated to prisoner processing will be assigned to the arrest site.
3. Two Polaroid photographs will be taken of the faces of each arrestee and arresting officer, and any available identification will be obtained from each arrestee, prior to transporting the arrestee from the scene. One photograph will be retained by the arresting officer, and one photograph and all prisoner identification will accompany the arrestee to the booking area. Normal security precautions will be followed as with any arrest situation, to ensure the safety of the arrestee and the officer.
4. If the identity of the arrestee is in question the arresting officer will verify the arrestee's identification by checking the in-house records, i.e., photographs and arrest records. If there is still a question about the arrestee's identification a copy of the fingerprints will be faxed to the FBI for verification, prior to completing any charging documents.

C. Transportation

1. Prisoners will be transported as directed by established procedures.
2. If it becomes necessary to transport prisoners in non-secure vehicles such as buses, a police escort will accompany the vehicle. One police vehicle will lead the escort, and a police vehicle will follow the transportation vehicle. A sufficient number of officers will ride in the transport vehicle (s) to assure the safety of the prisoners and the operator.

D. Detention

1. If the number of people arrested exceeds the capacity of the Department's holding facility, the Commander of the Operations Division or his/her designee shall have cause to contact the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Department. If the Emergency Operations Center is activated, such requests will be made through it.
2. Arrestees will be transported from the temporary detention area to a booking facility as facilities become available.
3. A supervisor and a designated number of officers will be assigned to the temporary holding facility to process the arrestees and to ensure the security of the facility and assist the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Department. All processing supplies, forms etc. will be supplied by the Annapolis Police Department.

E. Arrest and Custody of Juveniles

Refer to **General Order C.19.**

F. Media Relations

The Media Relations Officers shall be notified and summoned to the scene to coordinate media related activities. Refer to **General Order B.7.**

G. Food, Water and Sanitary Facilities

1. An officer will be assigned to ensure that adequate food, water, and sanitary facilities are available for the police officers involved in the mass arrest situation and for the persons arrested.
2. Communications will be requested to alert the Anne Arundel Alarmers, and arrangements for the purchase of large quantities of fast food items will be arranged by the Commander of the Administrative Services Division.

H. Defense Counsel Visits

1. Visits between arrestees and defense counsel will not be permitted at any temporary detention facility. Such visits will be permitted at the police department as circumstances warrant.
2. Visits will be subject to the approval of the officer in charge of the booking area.

I. Medical Treatment

1. The Annapolis Fire Department will be requested to provide on-scene ambulance and emergency medical support.
2. If an arrestee is injured or becomes ill, he or she will be transported to a medical facility by ambulance, accompanied by a police officer, as outlined in **General Order C.18.**
3. Prisoner health and safety will be a primary concern of all officers.

J. Court and Prosecutorial Liaison

1. The District Court Commissioners on duty will be notified by the Incident Commander or his/her designee of the fact that mass arrests are occurring, and should be prepared to process the arrestees.
2. An approximate number of arrestees should be related to the commissioners if known.
3. The decision to call in additional commissioners rests with the supervising commissioner.
4. Arresting officers are responsible for providing prosecutors with a pretrial briefing on each case, according to existing practice in District Court prosecutions.

K. Security

The Incident Commander will ensure that a sufficient number of officers are

assigned to the detail to assure the security of police facilities and equipment, civilian property in the area, and all prisoners.

II. Interagency Support

- A. To the extent needed, additional resources may be requested from the Anne Arundel County Police Department, the Maryland State Police, and/or the Anne Arundel County Sheriff’s Department. If the *All Hazards Plan* is activated, such requests shall be directed through it. Otherwise requests should be made through the Incident Commander.

- B. If the Department with the help of the Anne Arundel County Police Department, the Maryland State Police and the Anne Arundel County Sheriff’s Department is unable to cope with an emergency situation such as a riot or civil disturbance, it may then be necessary to call upon the National Guard. *The Incident Commander will notify the Director of Emergency Management or his/her designee who will confer with the mayor who may then request this support through the Maryland Emergency Management Administration (MEMA)*

III. Mass Arrest Kits

- A. Mass arrests kits shall be utilized for any mass arrest situation.

- B. Mass arrests kits shall be stored and secured in the A.S.E.T. room and will be inventoried monthly by the A.S.E.T. Commander or his/her designee.

- C. Each mass arrest kit shall be composed of but not limited to:

Large manila envelope containing

- i). Two flex- cuffs looped together
- ii). Arrest report/booking sheet
- iii). Evidence Bag
- iv). Property bag
- * Scissors for flex- cuffs will be kept with the mass arrests kits.

Joseph S. Johnson
 Chief of Police

References
1. Accreditation Standards 2.1.4, 46.1.2, 46.1.8, 72.5.6 2. General Orders B.7 News Media Relations, C.18 Prisoner Transport, C.19 Juvenile Arrests and Contacts 3. All Hazards Plan

Revision: This General Order replaces General Order H. 8 Mass Arrests Dated July 2000