

# TRAINING TASK: SEARCH AND HANDCUFFING PRISONERS

## TASK # 15

### Purpose

To search the suspects body for weapons and contraband  
Use of handcuffing techniques

### Preceding Task:

Laws of Arrest

### I. Statute and City Ordinances

- A. Following Case Law
  - 1. Terry vs. Ohio
  - 2. Minnesota vs. Dickerson

### II. Policy and Procedure

- A. G.O. 70.1.1 Prisoner Search
- B. G.O. 70.1.2 Vehicle Search/Inspection

### III. Operational Procedure

- A. Searches
  - 1. You may search person for weapons and area of immediate control without placing them under arrest under certain circumstances.
  - 2. Pat Down
    - a. Put person in position that gives you control
    - b. Pat down head to toe
    - c. Check hats, purses, packages, etc. Pat down of bags, purses only, unless a search is authorized under situational conditions. Shoes not removed on a pat down, which is considered an intrusion under clothing.
    - d. Procedure is same for pat downs of opposite sex (have second officer present) or call for officer of same sex
    - e. If you find weapon, handcuff immediately then retrieve weapon
    - f. Follow Minnesota vs. Dickerson for objects you immediately recognize as contraband. Key "Immediately Apparent".

- g. If subject resists or fights, disengage or use appropriate force options

B. Handcuffing

- 1. Person is under arrest
  - a. You may handcuff for officer safety but must advise subject they are not under arrest (articulate reason to suspect)
- 2. When handcuffing the only thing in your hand is the handcuffs
- 3. Tactical "L" with partner.
- 4. Place person in position where you have control
  - a. Hands out to side, palms up, thumbs out
  - b. Kneeling
  - c. Prone
- 5. Properly apply handcuffs, stacking them if possible
- 6. Check fit, adjust if necessary
- 7. **DOUBLE LOCK, GAP CHECKED, AND STACKED CUFFS. NOTE IN REPORT**
- 8. After handcuffing, search the suspect thoroughly
  - a. Search head to toe, one side at a time
  - b. One hand in control of suspect (handcuffs) and search with free hand
- 9. Helpful hints
  - a. Consider wearing latex gloves
  - b. Ask subject if they have weapons, contraband, or sharp objects on them
  - c. Search vehicle before and after transport, note this in report
  - d. **Search everyone who comes into your custody. Do not assume someone else did**

*I acknowledge that I received training in the skills and knowledge necessary to perform in the above Training/Task Topics, and I am able to perform at an acceptable level.*

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*Probationary Officer                      Date*

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*Supervisor                      Date*

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*FTO                      Date*