

ALBUQUERQUE POLICE DEPARTMENT
* PROCEDURAL ORDERS*

Effective: 09/30/2011 ; Replaces 06/11/99

2-11 HOSPITAL PROCEDURES AND RULES

POLICY:

Department policy is to ensure that medical care is provided to arrested persons, intoxicated persons, when such care is needed, based on approved medical and legal procedures.

DEFINITION:

2-11-1 INTOXICATED PERSON [N/A]

As used in subsection 2-11-2, a person whose mental or physical functioning is so substantially impaired as a result of the use of alcohol that the person has become disorderly or has become unable to care for his/her own safety.

RULES AND PROCEDURES:

2-11-2 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF INTOXICATED PERSONS [7]

- A. Officers may transport intoxicated persons to their residence when it appears to the officer that the intoxicated person will thereby become orderly and be able to care for themselves.
- B. Officers may transport, or request transport, for intoxicated persons to the nearest health care facility within Bernalillo County when the officer believes that the intoxicated person is unable to care for himself or is in need of medical attention.
- C. Officers may transport intoxicated persons who have become disorderly to a health care facility for protective custody when it appears that the intoxicated person:
 1. Has no local residence.
 2. Is unable to care for his/her own safety.
 3. Constitutes a danger to others if not taken into protective custody.
- D. Officers will complete an offense report on all protective custody incidents by the end of their work shift.
- E. Officers may transport intoxicated persons to M.A.T.S. as long as the person is not violent or disorderly. Person must be able to walk under their own power. If the person is using medication and does not have it with them, they must be taken to the nearest health care facility within Bernalillo County.

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2-11-3 SUSPECTS UNDER ARREST IN NEED OF MEDICAL ATTENTION
[7]

A. When a suspect is in need of medical treatment, the suspect will be taken to an Albuquerque hospital, outlined in section 1-08-08 by the arresting officer prior to booking.

2-11-3 A.
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1. Whenever possible, officers shall ensure that the suspects identification papers are available for use by ambulance and hospital personnel. If identification papers are not available, officers should provide any available identification information such as name and date of birth, to ambulance and hospital personnel.
2. If the suspect has insurance at a specific hospital facility, or has preference of a hospital, the officer will transport to that facility if a non emergency situation exists, as long as the hospital facility is within this jurisdiction EXCEPT the Veterans or K.A.F.B. hospitals.

B. In all cases involving the use of rescue or ambulance personnel, the officer will defer to their choice of a hospital facility.

2-11-4 HOSPITAL POLICE HOLDS AND BOOKING PAPERWORK
[7]

A. If an officer must leave a suspect at the hospital, a police hold card will be filled out, which will include the charge nurse's signature. On completion, the police hold card will be submitted with the admission papers. Police hold cards are available in the emergency room admitting office of all hospitals in Albuquerque.

*NOTE: Hospital holds will not be placed on suspects arrested pursuant to the Family Protection Act (Domestic Violence), even when the applicable charges involve only misdemeanor offenses. The transporting officer is responsible for remaining with and guarding the prisoner.

B. Prior to leaving the hospital, the arresting officer will verbally advise the suspect that he is under arrest and is not to leave the hospital without a police escort.

C. If it is necessary to handcuff a suspect at a hospital, an officer will remain with the suspect.

[6] D. Felony suspects will not be left unattended at a hospital without notification of the on-duty area supervisor, who may assign an officer to guard duty.

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[7] E. The arresting officer will then go to the booking desk at the detention facility and complete the Criminal Complaint, pre-booking sheet and any other necessary citations and/or forms. This paperwork will be left with the booking officer.

2-11-4
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F. When a suspect is ready for release, the Communications supervisor will be notified and, if available, the arresting officer will be sent to transport the suspect to the booking facility at the detention center. If the arresting officer is unavailable or off-duty, another officer from the arresting officer's Area Command will be dispatched. This officer will transport and book the suspect into the detention center based on the booking paperwork that was left by the arresting officer.

G. If the booking paperwork cannot be located, the transporting officer will attempt to contact the arresting officer for factual information in which to complete the necessary booking paperwork. If the arresting officer cannot be contacted, the transporting officer will release the suspect (with a supervisors approval) and write an incident report that explains why the suspect was "unarrested." A copy of the incident report will be sent to the arresting officer by the transporting officer.

H. If a suspect is released, the arresting officer can still file the criminal charges and request that a summons or warrant be issued through the Metropolitan Court.

I. If a police hold suspect walks away from the hospital and cannot be located, the arresting officer may file the original charges through Metropolitan Court and have a summons or warrant issued. An additional charge of "Escape From Custody Of A Police Officer, Corrections Officer, Bailiff, Probation Officer, Or Hospital " (City Criminal Code 12-1-2-24) may be filed with the pre-existing charges. Refer to "Refilling of Criminal Charges" Section 2-14-13 B of this manual.

2-11-5 SECURING OF WEAPONS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

A. If an officer is injured or wounded and is admitted into a health care facility, the officer's weapon(s) will be required to be secured. The weapon(s) can be secured by an accompanying officer or supervisor; placed into a hospital lock box if provided; or placed into the trunk of the officer's patrol car. Law enforcement officers visiting the hospital, but not requiring treatment, will be allowed to keep their weapons.

B. If an officer is called to a health care facility for any event that requires police intervention, the responding officers will remain armed. A supervisor will be dispatched immediately to any call at a health care facility that requires police intervention. The authorization to remain armed stands even if the officer must enter the interior of the health care facility.

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2-11-5
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- C. If an officer is not responding to a call, but is at the health care facility on other business and the health care facility has a policy prohibiting weapons within a secured area, the officer will comply with the policy and secure the weapon in a lock box provided, or securing the weapon his/her patrol car.