EMERGENCY RESTRAINT CHAIR

Policy:

The restraint safety chair is a restraint control device that utilizes a combination of restraints and restraining straps, in a specially designed contoured chair. The restraint chair will provide containment of an inmate exhibiting violent and or uncontrollable behavior. When applied it provides minimal potential for injury to the inmate and staff.

Procedures:

Use of a restraint safety chair will be governed by the following criteria:

The Sheriff or Chief Deputy/Jail Administrator must authorize use.

A Law Enforcement Officer will oversee the placement of an individual into the restraint chair.

To prevent self-injury, injury to others, or property damage and to control individuals displaying extremely aggressive and violent behavior.

When other control techniques are not applicable in controlling the individual.

When restrained in a chair the individual will be placed in a separate cell (Special Status) for maximum Correctional Officer observation, eyes on contact. Observation shall be continuous.

Continuous documentation shall be completed on the EMERGENCY RESTRAINT CHAIR LOG

After placement into a restraint chair, a daily activity log will be maintained on the inmate, documenting observation and activity every 5 minutes. The individual will be considered for removal from the chair at least hourly.

Observation and consideration of the individual’s physical and health conditions, such as body weight, will be considered in all cases. Frequent close up observation of the inmate’s health conditions will be made and logged.

The individual will not be released from the chair until it is believed that there is no longer a threat to self or others and the inmate can be reasonable controlled by a Correctional Officer. Do not overextend the restraint period, release the individual as soon as conditions allow or medical issues require.

The maximum confinement time in the chair is two [2] hours unless authorized by the Sheriff or Chief Deputy/Jail Administrator, after a review of the individual’s condition.

During the time period that the individual is restrained in the chair, an activity log will be kept with detailed entries being made every 5 minutes. An incident report, including the noting of time in and time out of the chair and use of force report must be submitted. Particular attention to health issues must be addressed.
Application of use:

After it has been determined that restraint chair is needed, the following guidelines for application will apply:

1. A cursory visual inspection will be made of the chair to ensure all equipment and accessories are serviceable. The individual will be clothed with the exception of personal property (which is to be removed) such as: jewelry, glasses, shoes, boots, socks, coat, hat and belt.
2. The individual should be handcuffed [hands behind their back] and wearing leg irons.
3. Place the inmate in the chair, secure the lap belt free end in the lap belt clevis and pull the handle until snug.
   a. Note: To loosen the lap belt, insert a standard handcuff key in the lap belt buckle, and “push in” while pulling slack on lap belt.
4. Place the chain of the leg irons behind the chain retainer.
5. Attach the handcuff tether to the handcuffs.
6. Release the right wrist from the handcuffs and secure it to the arm of the E.R.C. with the right wrist strap and pull the belt snug.
   a. CAUTION: DO NOT CUT OFF THE CIRCULATION TO THE HAND.
7. Release the left wrist from the handcuffs and secure it to the arm of the E.R.C. with the left wrist strap and pull the belt snug.
   a. CAUTION: DO NOT CUT OFF THE CIRCULATION TO THE HAND.
   b. Note: To loosen wrist strap, insert a standard handcuff key in the wrist buckle, and “push in” while pulling slack on wrist strap.
8. Retighten the lap belt if necessary.
9. Fasten the shoulder strap by passing the free ends over the shoulders, under the armpits, and secure them to the shoulder strap clevises located on the back of chair. Then tighten by pulling down on the shoulder strap handle.
   a. CAUTION: DO NOT WRAP THE STRAPS AROUND CHEST, HEAD OR NECK.
10. Secure the ankle strap by passing the free end around the front of the ankle and securing it to the ankle strap clevis. Then pull the ankle strap handle until snug.
11. Remove leg irons.
12. When moving the E.R.C., the staff moving the inmate should firmly grasp the handles on the back of the seat, pull back while keeping the wheels from moving, and while balancing the individual, the chair may be moved by rolling it on the two rear wheels.
13. Use of a spit net to prevent spitters from spreading possible contaminated spit or other body fluids is authorized by the onsite supervisor only and will follow these guidelines:
14. The individual is spitting and refuses to stop after being told to stop.
15. The spit net is of special design and will not restrict the airflow for breathing.
16. The spit net is set over the head and is secured by loosely tying the neck straps.
17. The spit net will be removed when the individual agrees to stop the spitting or if any difficulty in breathing is observed.
18. After the individual is removed from the chair and prior to storage, the chair will be cleaned/disinfected with the appropriate solution.
   a. CAUTION: Do not use abrasives on either chair’s surface.

* ALL INCIDENT REPORTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ADDITION TO ALL RELATED MISCELLANEOUS FORMS AND COMPUTER LOGS PRIOR TO ANY CORRECTIONAL OFFICER INVOLVED LEAVING THEIR SHIFT.