



INMATE DISTURBANCES AND RIOTS

POLICY.

It is the policy of Deschutes County Sheriff's Office – Adult Jail (DCAJ) to take immediate steps to stop riots and/or inmate disturbances and restore the safety, security and order of the facility.

PURPOSE.

The purpose of this policy is to provide corrections staff with guidelines to follow during a riot or major disturbance.

OREGON JAIL STANDARDS:

- E- 601 Emergency Planning

REFERENCES:

- ORS 169.076, Standards for local correctional facilities
- ORS 162.245, Refusing to assist a peace officer
- DCSO Policy 3.43 Special Operations Team

DEFINITIONS.

Demonstration. Any passive nonviolent act by one or more inmates that is designed to express prisoner dissatisfaction with conditions of incarceration, jail rules and regulations, and bypass the normal established methods of prisoner communications and grievance procedures.

Disturbance. Any act by one or more inmates that is designed to cause a disruption of normal activities, interfere with the performance of jail duties, or hinder the general functions of the jail.

Riot. Any uncontrolled violent act that is designed to cause property damage and/or personal injury and involves three or more inmates. This situation tends to be escalating in nature.

Disruption. A riot, disturbance, or demonstration.

PROCEDURES.

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SECTION A: PREVENTION AND DETECTION

- A-1.** Seemingly insignificant issues may quickly escalate from inmate dissatisfaction to rioting unless staff acts to prevent and reduce tensions and misunderstandings. Corrections staff will put in place the following strategies that help prevent the issues and conditions that may lead to inmate disturbances:
- a. Good communication between management and line staff on jail operations.
 - b. Good communication between staff and inmates on rules, procedures, programs, and expectations.
 - c. Good communication between shifts.
 - d. Highly accessible and visible supervision by jail supervisors.
 - e. Prompt staff reporting that informs supervisors of unrest in the jail.
 - f. Useful activities and recreation programs for inmates.
 - g. A well-designed classification system. (This will help prevent inmate gangs, pressure groups, or other disruptive individuals from emerging and assuming power.)
 - h. Fair and impartial treatment of inmates.
- A-2** Even when prevention strategies are in place, tensions can rise because of events from both the inside and outside of the jail. For this reason, staff must constantly look for signs of unrest and discontent among inmates.
- A-3** The following areas may indicate unrest among inmates:
- a. Changes in general inmate behavior.
 - b. Inmates avoiding contact with staff.
 - c. A large increase in the number of inmate complaints and grievances.
 - d. An increase in the number of disciplinary reports.
 - e. An increase in the number of inmates asking for protective custody.
 - f. An increase in the number of inmates on sick call.
 - g. An increase in commissary spending, mail or property transfers.
- A-4** The following issues can add to inmate unrest:
- a. Racial or gang issues.
 - b. Quality and quantity of food.
 - c. Availability and quality of health care.
 - d. Idleness or lack of programs or recreation.
 - e. Availability and content of mail, visiting and telephone calls.
 - f. Emotional stress of incarceration.
 - g. Sexual pressure.
 - h. Misinformation or inadequate information.
 - i. Reduction of privileges.
 - j. Dissatisfaction with staff.
 - k. Substandard facilities.
 - l. Overcrowding.
 - m. Family pressures or problems.

- A-5** Staff must promptly report any tense or negative climate within the jail to a shift supervisor. Staff will correct, to the extent possible or practical, problems that lead to unrest and discontent. They will openly explain to inmates the reasons why certain policies and rules must remain in place.
- A-6** If prevention and early detection strategies are not successful, several types of disturbances may arise:
- a. Disturbances between two or more inmate groups.
 - b. Disturbances being used as a camouflage for an escape attempt.
 - c. Disturbances of a general nature to try to correct some real or perceived grievance.

SECTION B: GENERAL GUIDELINES

- B-1.** Corrections staff should always be on alert for unusual activities or tension, and make every effort to offset violence and maintain a preventative approach to inmate unrest.
- B-2.** All corrections staff should be aware that any disturbance, demonstration, or riot might be a diversionary tactic in order to affect an escape, take a hostage, assault staff or other inmates, or obtain contraband. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- B-3.** If a disruption of normal DCAJ routine develops within a housing unit, deputies must make an assessment of the situation and notify a shift supervisor and control center staff of the nature of the situation. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (i.e., weapons involved, number of inmates involved, fires, etc.).
- B-4.** Deputies shall order all non-participants to their cells or separate themselves from the involved individuals.
- B-5.** If the disruption is escalating and safety is jeopardized, deputies still within a housing unit must do one of the following:
- a. [REDACTED]
 - b. [REDACTED]
- B-6.** The inmates who are involved in the disruptive activity will be ordered to cease and return to their cells, or if in dorms, to their bunks to prevent the disorder from spreading.
[REDACTED]
- B-7.** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- B-8.** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

B-9. The deputy will continue to monitor the disruption at all times regardless of his location.

B-10. When corrections staff observes a disruption of normal activities in the [REDACTED] the staff will:

- a. [REDACTED]
- b. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- c. Identify the remaining participants and order them to cease their disruptive activity.
- d. [REDACTED]

B-11. If corrections staff observes a disruption of normal activities in the [REDACTED], the staff will notify a shift supervisor and control center staff of the nature of the disruption.

[REDACTED] Deputies will then do the following:

- a. [REDACTED]
- b. Order all inmates involved to stop their disruptive activities.
- c. [REDACTED]
- d. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- e. [REDACTED]

B-12. Disruptions caused by inmates while [REDACTED] as section B-11 of this policy.

SECTION C: CONTROL CENTER STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

C-1. Upon notification of a disruption of normal jail activities, the control center staff will:

- a. Immediately notify the shift supervisor of the situation and the area where the disturbance is located.
- b. Suspend inmate movement in and out of the affected area.
- c. [REDACTED] and notify appropriate agencies and persons as ordered by the shift supervisor.
- d. Stand by to receive orders.
- e. [REDACTED]
- f. [REDACTED]

SECTION D: SHIFT SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

D-1.

- a. [REDACTED]
- b. [REDACTED]
- c. [REDACTED].
- d. [REDACTED].
- e. [REDACTED]
- f. [REDACTED]
- g. [REDACTED]
- h. [REDACTED].
- i. [REDACTED]
- j. [REDACTED]
- k. [REDACTED]
- l. [REDACTED]
- m. [REDACTED]
- n. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

D-2. Once notified a disruption is occurring, the shift supervisor will:

- a. [REDACTED].
- b. [REDACTED]
- c. Authorize sufficient force to restore order, if necessary.
- d. Restore order in the affected area.
- e. Ensure that all DCAJ policies are followed. Other agencies involved will be required to follow the DCAJ policies as directed by corrections staff.
- f. If the shift supervisor determines that order cannot be restored [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- g. Notify the chain of command.
- h. Notify the Sheriff's Office Patrol Division and have law enforcement personnel respond.
- i. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- j. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- k. Ensure that the following are carried out once the disruption is brought under control:
 - 1) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
 - 2) Provide medical treatment for all injured inmates and staff.
 - 3) Secure the scene for criminal investigation.
 - 4) Assist the law enforcement agency in the investigation of the criminal matters.
 - 5) [REDACTED]

- 6) Release non-participating inmates from individual cells and return the jail to normal operations.
 - 7) Inspect all areas for damage, document and photo the damage.
 - 8) Detailed reports will be submitted by all response team members.
- l. Conduct a complete investigation of the incident and all staff will be de-briefed based on the information discovered in the review.
 - m. Submit an Incident Report detailing the action taken to bring the disruption under control to the on duty lieutenant.
 - n. Forward copies of all reports to the Deschutes County District Attorney's Office to determine whether criminal prosecution is appropriate. Also, disciplinary proceedings shall be initiated for all inmates involved.

D-3. If the situation warrants, the shift supervisor will:

- a. Have rescue units and fire department personnel dispatched to the jail and have them stand by. The shift supervisor will have the hospital notified of the situation and request they stand by.
- b. Have a deputy meet law enforcement and rescue personnel at the security gate and escort them to the designated command center. The shift supervisor will then brief responding personnel.
- c. Instruct the response team to use only the amount of force necessary to bring the disruption under control.
- d. [REDACTED]

SECTION E: DEMONSTRATIONS

E-1. If the nature of the disruption within the jail [REDACTED]

- a. Notify the control center staff and shift supervisor.
- b. Request back up and take no further action until it arrives.
- c. Order all non-participants to cell-in or separate themselves from the area(s) involved.
- d. Have the responding deputies escort all of the non-participants to a safe area.
- e. Have all non-essential personnel evacuate the area.
- f. All participants will be identified and ordered to return to their cells.
- g. Inmates participating in the demonstration will receive no privileges (i.e., telephone, television, visiting, commissary, library, etc.).
- h. Food shall be served in sacks for safety and security.
- i. If the disruption jeopardizes the safety and security of the jail or if the disruption appears to be escalating, the inmates involved in the demonstration shall be forcibly removed from the area and secured in a cell pending discipline hearings.
- j. All participants will receive a formal disciplinary rules violation report and or criminal charges if warranted.
- k. Corrections staff involved will submit incident reports documenting the incident.
- l. The shift supervisor will submit an incident report of the incident to the on duty

lieutenant.

FORMS USED:

- Incident Report (JMS)