

**SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORDER**

DATE/TIME: SEPTEMBER 13, 2022 0900 HOURS

NUMBER: 22-25

SUBJECT: PRISONER CARE DURING HOT WEATHER

SCOPE: ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE AFFECTED: 6.01

Sworn Department personnel are reminded that Department Procedure 6.01, Section XI.G. states:

When the prisoner is in the back seat of a patrol vehicle, it is the responsibility of the arresting officer to ensure that the prisoner is monitored at all times. When it is necessary for an officer to conduct business away from their prisoner, the officer shall have another officer watch the prisoner and remove the ignition key.

Additionally, **effective immediately**, sworn Department personnel transporting or holding prisoners in Department patrol vehicle and prisoner transport vans shall abide by the following:

When transporting or holding prisoners in a patrol vehicle in hot weather, the sliding window mechanism on the front prisoner cage partition, if equipped, shall be slid to the open position to allow for more airflow to the rear passenger compartment from the vehicle's air conditioner or open windows, for ventilation, as long as it is not a safety threat. The doors to the rear passenger compartment shall be locked to prevent escape.

While at the HQ sallyport, or other non-airconditioned facility where the prisoner is held in the patrol vehicle/prisoner van, and prisoners are left in cars during hot weather, the front windows shall be rolled completely down for ventilation. When feasible, the sliding window mechanism on the front prisoner cage partition, if equipped, shall be slid to the open position to allow for more airflow to the rear passenger compartment.

If the patrol vehicle is equipped with window guard bars in the rear passenger window frames, the rear passenger doors shall be locked, and the back windows shall be rolled at least halfway down to allow for adequate ventilation. If a fan or other cooling device is available, it should be aimed in the direction of the rear passenger windows, if feasible.

For sworn Department personnel transporting prisoners in a prisoner transport van, the rear or side prisoner hold area doors shall be locked and the rear doors shall be opened for ventilation.

If a prisoner presents as violent or an escape risk, then they should be transitioned to the maximum restraint chair or other secured open-air location while at HQ, and not kept in a vehicle. They shall be in a place that is able to be monitored by the transporting officer or other sworn personnel.

Whatever measures are taken shall be documented via BWC, or documented in a Case Report or Officer's Report, when possible.

At the HQ sallyport, transporting officers **shall not** leave their vehicles idling with their air conditioning on. This creates an air quality issue within the sallyport.

For a multiple prisoner transport, such as large crowd events, one member of the transport team shall ask their dispatcher to create a unique event number and place that unit on the event until all prisoners are placed in the appropriate detention facility. This will make all documentation to the transport easier to view when needed.

Department Procedure 6.01 will be updated to reflect these changes.

Please read at squad conferences and give a copy to all personnel.