

SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Standard Operating Guideline

Effective Date: 09/09/2020	Supersedes Policy Dated: 03/29/2016	Rescinds:	SOG Number:
Accreditation Index: 1.2.8, 70.1.1			407.2
Part Title: Operations		Chapter Title: Arrests	
Chief of Police:			

Strip Search / Body Cavity Search

I Policy

The Springfield Police Department hereby establishes a policy for conducting strip searches and body cavity searches of prisoners in custody of the Department.

II Definitions

Strip Search – The removal or rearrangement of some or all of the clothing of a person so as to permit an external inspection of the genitals, buttocks, anus, breasts, or undergarments of such person including inspections conducted visually, manually, or by means of any physical instrument.

Body Cavity Search – The internal inspection of a person's anus or genitalia, including inspections conducted visually, manually, or by means of any physical instrument.

III Procedure

1 Search Restrictions (CALEA 1.2.8(a))

- 1.1 No person arrested or detained for a traffic offense or an offense which does not constitute a felony may be subject to a strip search or a body cavity search by an employee of this department unless there is probable cause to believe that such person is concealing a weapon, evidence of the commission of a crime, or contraband.
- 1.2 All strip searches and body cavity searches must be approved by a Commander in addition to any other requirements.
- 1.3 Strip Searches

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- 1.3.1 All strip searches conducted by employees of this department shall be performed by two non-sworn persons or one sworn officer of the same sex as the person being searched and shall be conducted on premises where the search cannot be observed by any person other than the person(s) physically conducting the search, except that nothing herein shall be interpreted to prohibit a readily available person from being present at the request and consent of the person being searched. (CALEA 1.2.8(b))
- 1.3.2 All strip searches should be conducted at Police Headquarters, the South District Station, or the Greene County Jail unless exigent circumstances exist.
- 1.3.3 A strip search may be conducted under the following conditions:
 - 1.3.3(a) On a person detained or arrested on probable cause for any felony charge;
 - 1.3.3(b) On a person detained or arrested on probable cause for any traffic offense or misdemeanor charge under the exigencies listed in 1.1;
 - 1.3.3(c) Pursuant to a duly executed search warrant;
 - 1.3.3(d) Upon gaining written consent from the person to be searched.
 - 1.3.3(d.1) The person being searched may revoke consent at any time during the search or before the search begins, at which time the search shall be stopped immediately.
- 1.4 Body Cavity Searches (CALEA 1.2.8(a))
 - 1.4.1 All body cavity searches will be conducted under sanitary conditions by a physician, registered nurse, or practical nurse licensed to practice in this state.
 - 1.4.1(a) A body cavity search of a person detained or arrested for a traffic offense or an offense which does not constitute a felony may only be conducted pursuant to a duly executed search warrant.
 - 1.4.1(b) A body cavity search of a person detained or arrested on a felony charge may be conducted pursuant to a duly executed search warrant or upon gaining written consent from the person to be searched.
 - 1.4.1(b.1) The person being searched may revoke consent before the search begins or at any time during the search. The search shall be stopped immediately upon revocation of consent.
- 2 Reporting-Officer Responsibility (CALEA 1.2.8(d))
 - 2.1 All strip searches shall be noted in the officer's report. The report shall include:
 - 2.1.1 The location of the search;
 - 2.1.2 Name(s) of the person(s) being searched;
 - 2.1.3 Name(s) of the person(s) conducting the search;
 - 2.1.4 Names of all persons present;
 - 2.1.5 Name of the supervisor authorizing the search;
 - 2.1.6 Justification for the search.

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- 2.2 All body cavity searches shall be noted in the officer's report with a copy of the search warrant attached, if applicable.
 - 2.3 Complete a Body Search Authorization ([SPD Form # 98-SP-0299](#)) for all strip searches or body cavity searches. After Command authorization, submit the original to Records and furnish a copy to the person who was searched.
- 3 Authorization-Commander Responsibility (CALEA 1.2.8(a))
 - 3.1 Verify none of the restrictions listed on the Body Search Authorization form apply.
 - 3.2 Verify the probable cause standard has been met, when applicable.
 - 3.3 The Commander may then authorize or deny the request.
- 4 Exception in a Field Situation (CALEA 1.2.8(a) and 70.1.1)
 - 4.1 After conducting a proper pat down search, an officer in a field situation and with adequate probable cause may conduct a limited search by opening or rearranging a person's clothing to locate and seize a weapon that could be used against the officer or an innocent person.
 - 4.1.1 The removal of clothing inconsistent with modesty is prohibited in a field situation unless exigent circumstances are involved.
 - 4.1.1(a) Notification to a Commander must be made as soon as possible in the event this type of search is performed. (CALEA 1.2.8(d))
 - 4.2 If such a search is conducted, the officer performing the search shall include the facts of the incident in their report. (CALEA 1.2.8(d))
- 5 Court-Committed Persons
 - 5.1 The provisions of this policy shall not apply to persons committed to a correctional institution or jail by judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 6 Juveniles ¹ (CALEA 1.2.8(c))
 - 6.1 Strip and body cavity searches of juveniles will only be conducted in exigent circumstances.
 - 6.2 Body cavity searches will be conducted by a medical professional at a medical facility.
 - 6.3 All other searches will be conducted in accordance with the procedures in this policy.

IV Attachments

¹ Section 6 and sub-sections added to comply with CALEA standards, per Policy Change Order 20-010