## OFFICE OF OPERATIONS



## OPERATIONS NOTICE NO. 3

SUBJECT: RESTRAINT OF ARRESTEES RECEIVING MEDICAL TREATMENT

EFFECTIVE: IMMEDIATELY

In a recent incident that occurred at a contract hospital, a felony arrestee's handcuffs were completely removed while receiving medical treatment. The unhandcuffing of the arrestee later resulted in a barricaded suspect situation.

Arrestees in police custody receiving medical treatment should usually remain handcuffed during the treatment process. In the event that blood is to be drawn or other medical treatment is to be provided, it is rarely problematic to keep at least one arm handcuffed to a fixed object (e.g., bed, gurney, etc.) while the other arm is temporarily released to facilitate the treatment.

However, in rare cases where medical personnel insist that an arrestee be completely unhandcuffed, officers should consider all of the factors, including the arrestee's condition, age, stature, booking charge, etc., before unhandcuffing him/her. In the event that unhandcuffing an arrestee becomes medically necessary and unavoidable, officers should consider contacting a supervisor and/or requesting an additional unit(s) to ensure control of the arrestee is maintained.

If there are any questions regarding this Notice, please contact the Evaluation and Administration Section, Office of Operations, at (213)473-8826.

GEORGE ASCON, Assistant Chief Director, Office of Operations

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