

SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY

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16-029

Policy Subject:
Prisoner Escape

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PLEAC Standards:
2.5.4, 4.5.1

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a procedure that will direct the actions of members of the Scranton Police Department during an incident where a prisoner escapes from police custody.

II. POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Scranton Police Department to adhere to clear guidelines and a course of action when dealing with prisoner escapes from police custody.

III. PROCEDURE

The procedure to be followed in the event of a prisoner escape from police custody will remain consistent even though an escape may occur from various locales and under various circumstances (i.e., police custody, police vehicle, police facility, holding cell).

- A. The first officer to become aware of a prisoner escape from custody will immediately notify the communications dispatcher and provide the following:
 1. A complete description: name and address, if known, physical description, clothing, etc.

2. The original charge the prisoner was arrested for and whether or not he may be armed or considered dangerous.
 3. Any past dangerous history, if immediately known.
 4. Location, direction and means of travel, and probable areas of flight.
- B. A supervisor will be notified and will respond to the scene to take command. After evaluating the situation the supervisor will direct responding units to search for the prisoner(s).
1. Comm. Center will notify surrounding jurisdictions of the escape and any known information to aid in the apprehension.
 2. A supervising officer in command will make timely decisions as to whether or not a search perimeter will be established and where it should be located.
 3. If appropriate, K-9 will be called out.
- C. If the escape occurs in another jurisdiction, assistance will be requested immediately from the jurisdiction the officer is in at the time of the escape. The transporting officer(s) shall offer his services in order to recapture the escapee.
- D. The victim(s) of an escaped prisoner shall be notified if possible. When the victim resides outside of the jurisdiction of the Scranton Police Department the police department where the victim(s) resides or works shall be notified.
- E. The assigned officer(s) shall submit a case report regarding the escape.
- F. The Captain shall direct an internal investigation into the escape and submit his/ her findings without delay to the Chief of Police.

By Order Of:

Chief Carl R. Graziano
Superintendent of Police
Scranton Police Department