



## ESCAPES

### POLICY.

It is the policy of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office – Adult Jail (AJ) to prevent escape and respond quickly to escape attempts and actual escapes. This will help maintain public safety and corrections division security.

### PURPOSE.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to prevent escape, confirm actual escapes, and work toward a quick, safe capture of the escaped inmate(s).

### OREGON JAIL STANDARDS:

- E-207 Reconciling Counts
- E-601 Emergency Planning

### REFERENCES:

- ORS 161.235, Use of physical force in making an arrest or in preventing an escape
- ORS 161.239, Use of deadly force in making an arrest or in preventing an escape
- ORS 161.265, Use of physical force to prevent an escape (from a correctional facility)
- ORS 162.175, Unauthorized departure
- ORS 162.135, Definitions for ORS 162.135 – 162.205 (escape)
- ORS 169.076, Standards for local correctional facilities
- ORS 169.340, Liability for escape of a defendant in civil action
- AJ Policy [CD8-1, Perimeter Security](#)
- AJ Policy [CD-8-6, Security Checks and rounds](#)
- AJ Policy [CD-8-11, Use of Force in a Corrections Facility](#)
- AJ Policy [CD-8-17, Criminal Acts](#)
- AJ Policy [CD-13-1, Emergency Operations](#)
- AJ Policy [CD-13-5, Hostage Situations](#)

### DEFINITIONS.

**Attempted Escape.** When a legally confined inmate attempts to depart without permission.

**Escape.** Unlawful departure of a person from the custody of a correctional facility from legal confinement. The attempted or actual escape, of an inmate from official custody while being escorted outside the security perimeter of the AJ.

**Unauthorized Departure.** A failure to return to custody after any form of temporary release or transitional leave from a correctional facility.

**PROCEDURES.**

**SECTION A: PREVENTION AND RESPONSE**

**A-1. Prevention.** To help prevent escapes, the Captain will manage the AJ in a manner that includes the following:

- a. An objective, risk-based system to classify inmates
- b. A thorough system of security checks, rounds, and searches
- c. Frequent inmate counts
- d. Strict contraband control practices
- e. Proper use of restraints
- f. Constant member alertness

**A-2. Member Alertness.** Members will stay alert to signs that may include an inmate is planning an escape. Members will immediately notify a supervisor if they notice any unusual activities. Signs of a possible escape attempt or opportunity include the following:

- a. Change in inmate behavior
- b. [REDACTED]
- c. [REDACTED]
- d. [REDACTED]
- e. [REDACTED]
- f. [REDACTED]
- g. [REDACTED]
- h. [REDACTED]
- i. [REDACTED]
- j. [REDACTED]

**A-3. Crime.** Attempted Escape and Escape are crimes and will be referred to law enforcement for investigation.

**A-4. Escape Training.** Supervisors will make sure deputies receive initial and annual refresher training on escape procedures and practices. The training may be in formal classroom setting, at shift briefing, or via e-mail. Training should cover the following topics, which trainers should tailor based on the job needs of the members:

- a. Prevention
- b. Response by location of escape
- c. Pursuit decisions
- d. Search methods
- e. Documentation

**A-5. Use of Force in Preventing an Escape.** Deputies will follow [\*Use of Force in a Corrections Facility Policy No. CD-8-11\*](#), when using force to prevent an escape.

[REDACTED]

**SECTION B: INITIAL RESPONSE**

**B-1.** Upon discovery that an inmate has escaped from the AJ:

- a. Control center members and the shift supervisor will be notified immediately.
- b. Call 9-1-1 Dispatch as soon as practical.
- c. [REDACTED]
- d. [REDACTED]
- e. [REDACTED]
- f. [REDACTED]
- g. [REDACTED]
- h. [REDACTED]

**SECTION C: SHIFT SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

**C-1.** In the event an inmate escapes from the AJ, the shift supervisor will:

- a. Designate a command post.
- b. [REDACTED] notify 9-1-1 Dispatch.
- c. Deploy deputies appropriately.
- d. [REDACTED]
- e. [REDACTED]
- f. [REDACTED]
- g. Obtain the following information and report it to 9-1-1 Dispatch:
  - 1. [REDACTED]
  - 2. [REDACTED]
  - 3. [REDACTED]
  - 4. [REDACTED]
  - 5. [REDACTED]
  - 6. [REDACTED]

- h. Secure the scene (i.e., cell, housing unit, avenue of escape, etc.) and preserve any evidence to prevent its contamination.
- i. Notify the Chain of Command of the escape.
- j. The shift supervisor will assist law enforcement agencies in gathering and investigating information that may help in the recapture of the inmate. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- k. Develop a media release for approval.
- l. Conduct a formal and systematic questioning of witnesses or perpetrator as soon as possible. It is important to obtain information that will assist in the successful outcome of this or future escape situations.
- m. Notifications. For any type of escape, the shift supervisor will have the following persons notified:
  - 1. [REDACTED]
  - 2. Hold agency, if the escaped inmate has an out of county hold
  - 3. [REDACTED]
- n. For any escaped inmate, members will:
  - 1. Using the Jail Management System (JMS), assign “escaped” in release screen.
  - 2. Submit an Incident Report (JMS).
- o. Ensure copies of all reports are forwarded to the District Attorney’s Office so criminal prosecution may be considered. Also, initiate disciplinary proceedings.

***SECTION D: ATTEMPTED ESCAPE***

- D-1.** When members observe an inmate(s) attempting to exit the AJ by an unauthorized method, members will:
  - a. Notify AJ control center.
  - b. Order the inmate(s) to halt and use the reasonable necessary force to prevent the escape (refer to Policy No. *CD-8-11, Use of Force in a Corrections Setting*).
  - c. Respond to affected area to maintain security.
  - d. Remove the offending inmate(s) from the area and search.
  - e. Secure the scene and inmate’s property (i.e., cell, housing unit, avenue of escape, clothing, etc.) and preserve any evidence to prevent its contamination.
  
- D-2.** In the event of an inmate(s) attempted escape from the AJ, the supervisor shall:
  - a. Notify the Chain of Command of the attempted escape.

- b. Conduct a formal and systematic questioning of witnesses or perpetrator as soon as possible.
- c. Forward copies of all reports to the District Attorney's Office so criminal prosecution may be considered.
- d. Initiate disciplinary proceedings.

***SECTION E: UNAUTHORIZED DEPARTURE/WALK AWAY***

- E-1.** Inmates approved and released on a pass or furlough that do not return at the time and date listed on the *Special Pass Form No. 306* are considered unauthorized departures.
- E-2.** When members discover an inmate has not returned from an approved pass/furlough as scheduled, members will review the inmate's Special Pass form to verify the date and time the inmate was to return.
- E-3.** If the inmate failed to return as scheduled, the supervisor will check with members to ensure the inmate has, in fact, not returned.
- E-4.** Inmates will be declared an unauthorized departure 30 minutes after the scheduled time for return. Inmates who are late, but return within the 30 minute period of time, will be considered for disciplinary action.
- E-5.** The shift supervisor will try to contact the inmate at the telephone number the inmate listed on the Special Pass form. If contact is made, the shift supervisor will attempt to secure the inmate's immediate return.
- E-6.** If the inmate cannot be located or refuses to return, the supervisor will initiate Supervisory Authority Warrant proceedings charging Unauthorized Departure. Once the warrant is valid, 9-1-1 Dispatch will be notified and the following information provided:
- a. The inmate's name and physical description.
  - b. The amount of time the inmate is overdue.
  - c. The inmate's last known whereabouts.
  - d. [REDACTED]
  - e. The inmate's last known address.
  - f. The inmate's custody status (i.e., sentenced, un-sentenced, felony, misdemeanor, etc.).
  - g. Any pertinent information that may assist in the inmate's capture.
- E-7.** The Chain of Command will be notified of the unauthorized departure.

***SECTION F: ESCAPE DURING WORK CREWS OR OTHER TRANSPORT***

- F-1.** In the event an inmate should break custody while being escorted outside the AJ, the escorting deputy will order the inmate to stop. If the inmate refuses to stop, the deputy will use the reasonable necessary force to prevent the escape (refer to DCSO Policy 5.01 *Use of Force* and [Use of Force in a Corrections Setting Policy No. CD-8-11](#)).
- F-2.** If the deputy is unable to prevent the inmate from escaping, the deputy will immediately notify 9-1-1 Dispatch, by the most expedient means available.
- F-3.** The deputy will report the following information to the 9-1-1 Dispatch and/or other appropriate authorities:
- a. The escort deputy's exact location.
  - b. The inmate's name, description and date of birth.
  - c. The inmate's direction of travel.
  - d. If the inmate is in restraints.
  - e. Whether the inmate is considered dangerous or not.
  - f. The inmate's home address.
  - g. [REDACTED]
  - h. Any other information that may help the authorities capture the inmate.
  - i. Notify the shift supervisor.
  - j. Notify the chain of command.
- F-4.** Deputies will base a pursuit decision on what best prevents more inmates from escaping and best protects the public from harm. Deputies will consider their location, the classification of the remaining inmates, and the possible harm and risk the remaining inmates and escaping inmate pose when making a decision to pursue.
- F-5.** [REDACTED]
- F-6.** If the inmate attempting to break custody is apprehended, the deputy who captured the inmate will:
- a. Restrain the inmate.
  - b. Notify the appropriate authorities of the inmate's capture.
  - c. Return the inmate to the AJ or the nearest Law Enforcement Officer (LEO).
- F-7.** In the event an inmate should break custody while being escorted outside the AJ, the supervisor will:
- a. Notify the Chain of Command of the escape
  - b. The shift supervisor will assist law enforcement agencies in the gathering and investigating information that may help in the recapture of the inmate.

***SECTION G: POST ESCAPE***

- G-1.** Incident Reports shall be written by all members involved and submitted to the shift supervisor prior to the end of the shift. The shift supervisor will also submit an incident report.
- G-2.** The Captain will assign a lieutenant or outside investigator to perform a thorough review and debriefing of the incident to determine; cause, effect, and any necessary improvements in procedures or tactics. The lieutenant's findings will be submitted in writing to the Captain.
- G-3.** The Administrative Lieutenant will ensure any involved members are provided counseling as needed.
- G-4.** As soon as practical, the AJ and/or WC will return to normal operations.

**FORMS USED:**

- Incident Report (JMS)
- Media Release
- *Special Pass Form No. 306*
- Supervisory Authority Warrant (Unauthorized Departure)