



CRIMINAL ACTS

POLICY.

It is the policy of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office – Adult Jail to report any crime or offense that affects the AJ, members, inmates or operations.

PURPOSE.

The purpose of this policy is to provide members with guidelines on how to report crime. This policy also describes use of proper authority to make arrests, conduct investigations and protect evidence and crime scenes. This policy contains guidelines on holding inmates accountable for violations of federal, state or local law to maintain the order and the safety of members and other inmates.

OREGON JAIL STANDARDS:

- C-409 Criminal Violations
- E-401 Jurisdiction
- E-402 Protection of Evidence and Crime Scenes

REFERENCES:

- United States Constitution, Amendment 5 (Prohibition against self-incrimination)
- ORS 146.090, Deaths requiring investigation
- ORS 146.095, Investigation; certification; report; training
- ORS 146.100, Where death considered to have occurred; notification of death required
- ORS 146.103, Removal of body, effects, or weapons prohibited without consent
- ORS 146.107, Authority to enter and secure certain premises
- ORS 162.185, Supplying contraband
- DCSO [Policy Evidence Control Policy No. 4.10](#)
- DCSO Policy Physical Evidence No. 7.40

DEFINITIONS.

Cease Movement. A jail wide order to stop all internal inmate movement immediately. Self-escorting inmates continue on to the destination. No one, including members, may enter or leave the secure perimeter of the jail without a supervisor's approval.

Chain of Custody. The record of transfer for an item that shows successive possession by all those who handled or stored it. Chain of custody supports testimony given to authenticate and identify an item as evidence.

Crime. An offense for which a sentence of imprisonment (in jail or prison) is authorized. A crime is either a felony or misdemeanor.

Crime Scene. The area where a crime was committed or evidence of a crime was discovered.

Criminal Activity. Actions that violate local, state, and federal criminal law.

Evidence. Any physical object or surveillance footage that may provide information about how the crime occurred or connects the crime to the person who committed it.

Investigator. A deputy, detective or other law enforcement officer (LEO), assigned to look into criminal activity or crime or offense in the jail. In the case of death, an investigator includes the county medical examiner.

Minor Crime. Any offense or crime that is not a serious crime.

Offense. Conduct for which a law or ordinance prescribes imprisonment (in jail or prison) or a fine.

Serious Crime. Any crime or offense that involves significant injury to any person, death, a major inmate disturbance, the substantial loss or destruction of property, criminal activity involving people outside of the jail, ties to ongoing investigations by other agencies, or for other reasons unique to the specific case. A crime or offense that calls for the use of the resources of another agency.

Member Misconduct. Violation of law, ordinances, or Sheriff's Office policies, procedures, rules, code of ethics, or oath of office.

PROCEDURES.

SECTION A: GENERAL GUIDELINES

- A-1.** All known, or suspected, crimes or offenses committed by inmates in custody will be investigated by the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office.
- A-2.** Alleged crimes committed by members at the AJ may be investigated by outside jurisdictions at the discretion of the Sheriff.
- A-3.** The decision to prosecute crimes occurring in the AJ rests with the Deschutes County District Attorney's Office.

- A-4.** A member that discovers or suspects a crime or criminal activity will follow these basic guidelines:
- a. Notify a supervisor.
 - b. If injuries, call a nurse or 9-1-1 Dispatch for Emergency Medical Services (EMS). If trained, render first aid until relieved by medical personnel.
 - c. Lock down or remove all inmates from the immediate area.
 - d. If probable cause exists, secure the suspected perpetrator (when appropriate).
 - e. Secure the crime scene and protect evidence.
 - f. Keep a mental note of times, locations, inmate and members involvement, and incident events. Write details down as soon as possible.
- A-5.** Once notified of a crime or criminal activity, the shift supervisor will follow these basic guidelines:
- a. May call a cease movement.
 - b. Will respond to the scene.
 - c. May assign additional members to control access to the crime scene.
 - d. Contact chain of command if it is a serious crime.
 - e. Determine the severity/complexity of the alleged crime. A supervisor will determine whether an AJ deputy can investigate the incident or whether patrol or detectives will complete the investigation.
 - f. Assign a deputy to write an incident report in the JMS.
 - g. Direct a deputy to handle the disciplinary process.
 - h. Direct which involved members must write JMS supplemental narratives.
 - i. Ensure all necessary reports are submitted.
 - j. Assist the investigating deputy by retrieving and releasing any digitally recorded evidence of the alleged criminal act upon request. Any request for digitally recorded footage must be documented on an *AJ Video Request, Form No. 141*.
- A-6.** When a criminal investigation is being conducted, a suspect shall be advised of his Miranda Rights if questioned by investigators. Deputies shall be familiar with the Miranda Rights and carry a Miranda Warning Card for proper admonishment.
- A-7.** Inmates are subject to both jail discipline and criminal prosecution for the same act. Members will process discipline and criminal prosecution actions apart from each other; neither action depends on or limits the other.
- a. **Criminal Violation Process:** When an inmate violates an administrative rule that is also a violation of federal, state or local law, the case should be prosecuted administratively, as a disciplinary violation and submitted to the District Attorney's Office for consideration of criminal charges:

- 1) The Administrative Lieutenant will document each occasion when a case was submitted to the District Attorney's Office (including whether a complaint was issued); and
 - 2) Document whether a criminal complaint was issued or not. Information will be reported to the Captain monthly.
- A-8.** If deputies suspect a substance is an illegal drug, the suspected drug will be collected for evidence and **not** field tested. Deputies will follow evidence handling and control procedures found in DCSO *Policy 7.40, Physical Evidence* and DCSO *Policy 4.10, Evidence Control*.
- A-9.** Deputies will preserve and collect all evidence in incidents involving:
- a. Use of force resulting in injury or death.
 - b. Jail suicide.
 - c. Injury to members or inmate, including significant medical events.
 - d. PREA events.
 - e. Riot or hostage situations.
 - f. Escape or attempted escape.
 - g. Other events that may lead to litigation.

SECTION B: CRIME SCENE AND EVIDENCE PROTECTION

- B-1.** Deputies will follow evidence handling and control procedures found in DCSO *Policy 7.40, Physical Evidence* and DCSO *Policy 4.10, Evidence Control* to protect the crime scene so evidence is not lost, destroyed or contaminated. To protect the crime scene:
- a. Block off the crime scene and all paths into and out of the scene.
 - b. Limit access to the scene only to people with a need to be there.
 - c. Do not move or touch anything except to render emergency medical aid.
 - d. If members should move an object for safety or security reasons, photograph or mark its location.
 - e. Unless there is a safety risk to LEOs, do not move or cover a dead body, remove effects from the body, or remove instruments or weapons related to the death.
- B-2.** The reporting deputies must:
- a. Write an incident report.
 - 1) Obtain a case number, if necessary, from 9-1-1 Dispatch. (Be prepared to give them the offense and victim or suspect's name.)
 - b. If the reporting deputy made an arrest, an *AJ Custody Intake Form No. 307* must be completed.

SECTION C: RESPONSE TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY IN COURT FACILITIES

- C-1.** Court security members will coordinate an immediate response to incidents of a possible criminal nature at court facilities.
- a. Call 9-1-1 Dispatch as soon as practical.
 - b. Notify Court Security/Transports Sergeant.
 - c. Court security deputies will respond to all calls for assistance at court facilities. They will maintain control over an incident until relieved by a local law enforcement agency.
 - d. Whether issuing a citation to appear or making a probable cause arrest, deputies will follow all policies and procedures.

SECTION D: INVESTIGATIONS

- D-1.** The Captain or Sheriff will decide who will investigate serious crimes within the AJ or by inmates outside the facility while under corrections members' supervision. If the criminal activity involves people in the jurisdiction of another agency, the AJ will coordinate investigation efforts with that agency. A supervisor may have AJ members help gather evidence or question witnesses.
- D-2.** A supervisor will determine the severity/complexity of the alleged crime and determine whether an AJ deputy can investigate the incident or whether patrol or detectives will complete the investigation. The deputy will interview all involved inmates and members who are not writing supplemental reports. The deputy may record interviews, but must inform all parties they are being recorded.
- D-3.** Corrections members who discover or suspect member, volunteer or contracted provider misconduct will contact a supervisor. In addition to standard response and investigation, supervisors will do the following:
- a. Handle any investigation of misconduct by a Sheriff's Office employee according to policy [DCSO Complaint Review Policy No. 3.01](#).
 - b. Work with the programs supervisor on investigations of volunteers, if it does not compromise the investigation.
 - c. Work with the appropriate lieutenant or captain for investigations of contract service providers or other outside agency employee.

SECTION E: MEMBER TRAINING

- E-1.** The Captain should ensure all members receive initial and periodic training on how to recognize and report criminal activity, crimes, and offenses, and protect a crime scene and evidence. Deputies should also receive initial and periodic training on how to collect and process evidence, conduct an interview, question suspects, and investigate incidents.

FORMS USED:

- DCSO Criminal Report Form
- DCSO Property/Evidence Report Form
- Jail Incident Report Form No. 102 (JMS)
- Miranda Warning Card
- [Jail Video Surveillance Request Form No.141](#)