

**I. PURPOSE**

To establish guidelines to be followed in the event that an escape from custody occurs during transit operations.

**II. POLICY**

It is the policy of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office that:

- A. Every effort will be made to prevent escapes while transporting inmates outside of the ADC.
  - 1. If an escape is suspected, all measures will be taken to prevent the escape.
  - 2. If an escape is accomplished, all efforts shall be made to return the inmate to secure confinement.

**III. PROCEDURE**

- A. Escape from custody while in transport via vehicle:
  - 1. All inmates are to be secured in a manner that shall impede movement so as to discourage an escape attempt and/or lessen the chance of a successful escape.
  - 2. In the event of an escape, the deputy shall:
    - a. Remain calm.
    - b. Notify the Department of Public Safety Communications (DPSC) via radio if the escape occurs within Fairfax County.
    - c. Advise DPSC of the location of the escape, provide a physical description of the escapee, and request that all appropriate local jurisdictions be notified of the escape.
    - d. In the event the escape occurs outside of Fairfax County and within neighboring jurisdictions who are members of Inter-Jurisdictional Police Mutual Aid, notify that jurisdiction in accordance with [SOP 056, Attachment 3 - Inter-Jurisdictional Police Mutual Aid Communications](#)
    - e. Notify CB1, of the escape and provide the name(s) of the inmate(s) involved.
  - 3. ADC Control Booth Operator shall:
    - a. Notify the shift supervisor.
    - b. Monitor ADC OPS channel and all other appropriate talk groups and channels.
    - c. Clear telephone lines into the control booth.

**FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

**SOP NUMBER: 516a  
SUBJECT: ESCAPE FROM CUSTODY WHILE  
IN TRANSPORT**

4. The Shift Supervisor shall:
  - a. During normal working hours, notify the Confinement Commander or the ranking Command Staff Deputy on duty.
  - b. Outside of normal working hours, notify the Staff Duty Officer.
  - c. Maintain a log of all actions taken and the time that the actions occurred.
  - d. Maintain a roster of deputies dispatched from the ADC in support of operations.
  - e. Maintain radio communication by requesting DPSC clear a channel to be used until completion of the assignment.
5. The SDO shall respond to the ADC to take command of the situation. The SDO shall initiate all appropriate notifications and call back of personnel, if necessary.
6. Upon notification, the Internal Affairs Investigator shall act in accordance with [SOP 516 - Escape and Attempted Escape](#); Section E, Paragraph 5.
7. When the inmate has been returned to custody, the transporting deputy shall secure proper warrants, and file an incident report.



**STACEY A. KINCAID  
SHERIFF**

**01/01/00  
DATE APPROVED**

**06/05/95  
EFFECTIVE DATE**

**Revised: November 2007, April 2018, December 2018**