

Section 5: Security
Subject: Gender/Cross-gender Supervision
Minimum Standard: 5120:1-8-03(B)(15)
Revised: 01/2017

Authorized: _____ **Effective date:** _____
Sheriff Paul A. Sigsworth

POLICY

At least one male and one female employee will be on duty at all times in the Erie County Jail to provide for supervision of jail inmates. Inmates shall generally be able to shower, use the restroom, and/or change clothing without employees of the opposite gender being able to view an inmate's genitalia, buttocks, or—if a female—breasts, unless exigent circumstances exist or when the viewing is incidental and occurs during routine or authorized inmate/employee interaction.

PROCEDURE

A. Booking and Release

At all times during the booking and/or release process of an inmate, an employee of the same gender will conduct all pat-downs, strip searches, and/or change-outs of the inmate being booked into, or being released from, the jail. All other procedures to be followed during the booking or release processes may be performed by an employee of the opposite gender if an employee of the same gender is not available to perform those duties at that time due to other jail activity.

B. Security/Observation Checks

Security and/or observation checks of inmates in housing areas and/or individual jail cells may be conducted by officers of the same or opposite gender of the inmate(s) being observed. If practicable, employees of the opposite gender of the inmates being observed will announce their presence when entering the housing area in question. Such announcement is not necessary during times when inmates would generally be sleeping.

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