

Section 6: Jail Emergencies Response Plan
Subject: Escape From Outside Security Perimeter
Minimum Standard: 5120:1-8-03(B)(4)
Revised: 10/2008, 12/2011

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

POLICY

The Erie County Jail shall have policies and procedures, and practices which evidence that there is a plan that guides the jail's response to emergencies. All jail personnel will be trained in the implementation of the emergency plan. The emergency plan will include procedures to be followed in situations that threaten jail security.

DEFINITION

A jail emergency can be, but not limited to, escape, hostage situation, fire, riot, food poisoning, civil disturbance in the community, natural disaster, suicide, other death, outbreak of contagious disease, inmate strike and other disturbances, bomb threat, or any action that affects or jeopardizes the security of the Erie County Jail and/or the safety of the inmates and/or staff.

PROCEDURE

A. Policy:

1. All personnel shall give the highest priority to the apprehension of the escapee.

B. Discovery: In the event an inmate does not return to the facility because of walk away from work detail or escape during transport:

1. The Shift Supervisor shall immediately make contact with the person in charge of the work crew or transport from which the inmate escaped. The shift supervisor will obtain the following information from the person in charge of the work crew:
 1. Positive identification of the inmate.
 2. A description of the clothing the inmate was last seen wearing.
 3. The exact location the inmate was last seen.
 4. The direction and any information about the mode of travel the inmate might have used.

C. Notification:

1. The Shift Supervisor will immediately;
 1. Notify Dispatch of escape, including:
 - a. Name of the escapee
 - b. Physical description of the escapee
 - c. Direction of travel of escapee, if known
 - d. Home Address of escapee
 - e. Provide mug shot and/or any information that may assist police agencies in the capture of the escapee.

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2. Notify the Jail Administrator of the escape.
3. Notify the Sheriff of the escape.
4. No information will be released to the news media without approval of the Sheriff or his designee.

D. Crime Scene:

1. Any and all items the inmate may have been in possession of (cards, letters, notes, etc.) should be kept secure at the scene for investigators.

E. Reporting: All corrections officers involved are required to submit a detailed written report of the incident as soon as possible. The Shift Supervisor will place an ESC (Escape) Event, attaching the inmate, in the Shift Log of the Jail's Record Management System.

F. Investigation:

1. In the event of an escape from outside the security perimeter, the Detective Bureau of the Erie County Sheriff's Office will conduct a criminal investigation.

G. Evaluation:

1. A complete evaluation of the escape, including circumstances that led up to and action taken by corrections staff, will be conducted by the Jail Administrator.
2. The Jail Administrator will present all findings of the evaluation in writing to the corrections staff and the Sheriff.