

Section 6: Jail Emergencies Response Plan

Subject: Civil Disturbance

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. Definition:

1. A civil disturbance is defined as any demonstration, outside assault, sniper, or terrorist act outside the security perimeter of the Erie County Jail that affects the security of the jail.

B. Discovery:

1. The officer first observing or being made aware of the civil disturbance will advise the shift supervisor of the situation.

C. Notification:

1. The Shift Supervisor will:
 1. Immediately notify Dispatch of the incident with as much information as possible:
 - a. Location
 - b. Number of people involved
 - c. Number of and types of weapons involved
 - d. Degree of violence and property damage present
 - i. The Dispatcher will:
 1. Alert the Road Patrol of the situation
 2. Contact Perkins Fire and EMS and request a squad to standby.
 2. Notify the Jail Administrator as soon as possible.
 3. No information will be released to the news media without approval of the Sheriff or his designee.

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D. Response:

1. The Erie County Sheriff's Road Division will handle all incidents which occur outside the security perimeter of the jail.
2. During the civil disturbance, all inmates will be locked down in their assigned cells.
3. All inmate programs will be terminated.
4. Any nonessential personnel (Counselors, Maintenance Personnel) will be escorted out of the jail or placed into a secure, safe area of the jail.
5. Off duty corrections staff may be called in for assistance upon approval of the Jail Administrator.

E. Investigation:

1. In the event of a civil disturbance, the Detective Bureau of the Erie County Sheriff's Office will conduct a criminal investigation.

F. Evaluation:

1. A complete evaluation of the civil disturbance, circumstances that led up to the civil disturbances, and action taken to quell the civil disturbances 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.