

F. TOTAL APPENDAGE RESTRAINT METHODS AND EQUIPMENT:

1. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to provide police officers with guidelines in the use of total appendage restraining methods. Total appendage restraining methods are designed to be used in various situations that require the restraint of a violent or uncooperative suspect, preventing or limiting injury to officers and/or the suspect and/or damage to property.

2. DEFINITIONS:

- a. **HOBBLE** - A restraining device used primarily to secure the legs and ankles of a subject.
- b. **“RIPP” HOBBLE** - A restraining device made of one-inch wide polypropylene webbed belting with a tested strength of 700 pounds, equipped with a one-inch wide steel, alligator-jawed, friction-locking clip, and bronze swivel.
- c. **“TARP” - Total Appendage Restraint Position** - The method employed by officers to restrain handcuffed suspects in a seated position, using RIPP or similar type equipment.

3. POLICY:

- a. Officers shall only use department approved restraining methods, when such use appears warranted under the circumstances. Currently, only restraining hobbles that are of the “RIPP” design or similar are approved. This does not preclude officers from using other restraining devices if the “RIPP” or similar type hobbles are not immediately available. However, the use of other devices or systems is discouraged, unless absolutely necessary.
- b. Officers shall not restrain or transport suspects in a “Hog-Tied” position. For the purpose of this policy, Hog-Tied refers to the method of restraining the hands and feet together behind the suspects back while the suspect is lying in a face down position. The T.A.R.P. is not a hog-tie position. If it is necessary to control and restrain a suspect by the use of two or more officers transferring their body weight onto the suspect while the suspect is positioned face down on the ground, officers shall immediately, upon restraining the suspect, reposition the suspect into a sitting or face-up position. Officers shall continually monitor the suspect for signs of Cocaine Psychosis (Cocaine Overdose) or Excited Delirium (“Other” Drugs Overdose). If in doubt, officers should arrange to have the suspect transported to the hospital prior to booking. (Refer to training bulletin 96-02.)

4. APPROVED USES OF THE RIPP HOBBLE:

- a. To secure the feet and legs of a suspect to control running, kicking, and fighting.
- b. To prevent a suspect from standing.
- c. To secure a violent and/or uncooperative suspect in a total appendage restraint (T.A.R.P.) position.
- d. To secure a suspect’s feet in the police unit to prevent self injury, injury to

officers, and/or damage to police units.

- e. As approved by a supervisory officer.

5. **PROCEDURE:**

When the hobble is used on a suspect who meets the listed criteria for use, the following procedures will be employed as they apply:

- a. When transporting a suspect in the rear of the unit with the suspect's ankles secured with the hobble, officers will attempt to seat suspect in an upright position in the passenger side, back seat. After seat belting the suspect, the loose end of the hobble will be secured to the front seat area in a manner which prevents the suspect from kicking. In no circumstances will the loose end of the hobble be left outside of the back or front door.
- b. A suspect who is continually combative and/or uncooperative may be restrained in the T.A.R.P. position. **A suspect restrained in this position shall not be transported face down on their chest.** The suspect can be placed on his/her side and his/her feet secured as above. When a suspect is transported in this position, the transporting unit will consist of two officers. The second officer will continuously monitor the suspect's condition. Medical attention shall be sought if the suspect appears to be having difficulties in breathing, lapse in consciousness, or other medical problems.
- c. A suspect may be kept in the T.A.R.P. position for as long as it appears necessary under the circumstances of each particular situation. The suspect should be released from the feet to handcuff (T.A.R.P.) position when it reasonably appears that the suspect is cooperative and non-combative.
- d. The use of the "RIPP" or other approved hobble devices shall be fully documented in the arrest reports. This documentation shall include the observable symptoms and specific actions of the suspect which required the use of a restraint device.
- e. Officers who use the hobble restraint on a suspect, shall immediately notify a supervisory officer when the hobble restraint device is used in incidents as outlined in the Use of Force Guidelines, Section 4.30 (I).