Temporary Custody of Juveniles

901.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines consistent with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act for juveniles taken into temporary custody by members of the Elkton Police Department (34 USC § 11133).

901.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Juvenile non-offender - An abused, neglected, dependent, or alien juvenile who may be legally held by law enforcement for the juvenile's own safety or welfare. This also includes any juvenile who may have initially been contacted for an offense that would not subject an adult to arrest (e.g., fine-only offense) but was taken into custody for the juvenile's protection or for purposes of reuniting the juvenile with a parent, guardian, or other responsible person.

Juvenile offender - A juvenile 13 to 17 years of age who is alleged to have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest, or a juvenile 10 to 12 years of age who is alleged to have committed certain specified crimes that would subject an adult to arrest (e.g., crimes of violence, Md. Code CR § 14–101; aggravated cruelty to animals, Md. Code CR § 10-606; sexual offenses, Md. Code CR § 3-307; firearms offenses) (Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-01; Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-03). A juvenile offender also includes a juvenile in custody for handgun possession by a person under age 21 years under Md. Code PS § 5-133 (28 CFR 31.303).

Non-secure custody - When a juvenile is held in the presence of an officer or other department member at all times and is not placed in a locked room, cell, or behind any locked doors. Juveniles in non-secure custody may be handcuffed but not to a stationary or secure object. Personal supervision, through direct visual monitoring and audio two-way communication, is maintained. Monitoring through electronic devices, such as video, does not replace direct visual observation.

Safety checks - Direct, visual observation by a member of this department performed at random intervals, within time frames prescribed in this policy, to provide for the health and welfare of juveniles in temporary custody.

Secure custody - When a juvenile offender is held in a locked room, a set of rooms, or a cell. Secure custody also includes being physically secured to a stationary object.

Examples of secure custody include:

(a) A juvenile left alone in an unlocked room within the secure perimeter of the adult temporary holding area.

(b) A juvenile handcuffed to a rail or other object.

(c) A juvenile placed in a room that contains doors with delayed egress devices that have a delay of more than 30 seconds.

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(d) A juvenile being processed in a secure booking area when a non-secure booking area is available.

(e) A juvenile left alone in a secure booking area after being photographed and fingerprinted.

(f) A juvenile placed in a cell within the adult temporary holding area, whether or not the cell door is locked.

(g) A juvenile placed in a room that is capable of being locked or contains a fixed object designed for cuffing or restricting movement.

Sight and sound separation - Located or arranged to prevent physical, visual, or auditory contact.

Status offender - A juvenile suspected of committing a criminal violation of the law that would not be a criminal violation but for the age of the offender. Examples may include running away, underage possession of tobacco, curfew violation, and truancy. A juvenile in custody on a court order or warrant based upon a status offense is also a status offender.

901.2 POLICY

The Elkton Police Department is committed to releasing juveniles from temporary custody as soon as reasonably practicable and to keeping juveniles safe while in temporary custody at the Department. Juveniles should be held in temporary custody only for as long as reasonably necessary for processing, transfer, or release.

901.3 JUVENILES WHO SHOULD NOT BE HELD

Juveniles who exhibit certain behaviors or conditions should not be held at the Elkton Police Department. These include:

(a) Unconsciousness or having been unconscious while being taken into custody or transported.

(b) Serious injuries or a medical condition requiring immediate medical attention.

(c) A suspected suicide risk or showing obvious signs of severe emotional or mental disturbance (see the Mental Health Evaluations Policy).

1. If the officer taking custody of a juvenile believes that he/she may be a suicide, risk, the officer shall ensure continuous direct supervision until evaluation, release or transfer to an appropriate facility is completed.

(d) Significant intoxication or showing signs of having ingested any substance that poses a significant risk to their health, whether or not they appear intoxicated.

(e) Extremely violent or continuously violent behavior.

(f) Afflicted with, or displaying symptoms of, a communicable disease that poses an unreasonable exposure risk.

Officers taking custody of a juvenile exhibiting any of the above conditions should take reasonable steps to provide medical attention or mental health assistance and should notify a supervisor of the

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situation. These juveniles should not be held at the Department unless they have been evaluated by a qualified medical or mental health professional, as appropriate for the circumstances.

901.4 CUSTODY OF JUVENILES

Officers should take custody of a juvenile and temporarily hold the juvenile at the Elkton Police Department when there is no other lawful and practicable alternative to temporary custody. Refer to the Child Abuse Policy for additional information regarding detaining a juvenile who is suspected of being a victim.

No juvenile should be held in temporary custody at the Department without authorization of the arresting officer's supervisor or the Duty Officer. Juveniles taken into custody shall be held in non-secure custody unless otherwise authorized by this policy.

Any juvenile taken into custody shall be released to the care of the juvenile's parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult, or transferred to a juvenile custody facility or to another authority as soon as practicable. In no event shall a juvenile be held beyond six hours from the time of his/her entry into the Department (34 USC § 11133).

901.4.1 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE NON-OFFENDERS

Non-offenders taken into protective custody in compliance with the Child Abuse Policy should generally not be held at the Elkton Police Department. Custodial arrangements should be made for non-offenders as soon as reasonably possible. Juvenile non-offenders may not be held in secure custody (34 USC § 11133).

901.4.2 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE STATUS OFFENDERS

Status offenders should generally be released by citation or with a warning rather than taken into temporary custody. However, officers may take custody of a status offender if requested to do so by a parent or legal guardian in order to facilitate reunification (e.g., transported home or to the station to await a parent). Juvenile status offenders may not be held in secure custody (34 USC § 11133).

The following offenses require a citation in lieu of custody absent a separate justification for custody (Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-33):

(a) Alcoholic beverage violations (Md. Code CR § 10-113; Md. Code CR § 10-114; Md. Code CR § 10-115; Md. Code CR § 10-116)

(b) Possession of Salvia divinorum (Md. Code CR § 10-132)

(c) Table game and video lottery terminal violations (Md. Code CR § 10-136)

(d) Alcohol possession or consumption on school premises (Md. Code ED § 26-103)

(e) Use or possession of cannabis (Md. Code CR § 5-601)

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901.4.3 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Juvenile offenders should be held in non-secure custody while at the Elkton Police Department unless another form of custody is authorized by this policy or is necessary due to exigent circumstances.

Juvenile offenders are subject to custody when (Md. Code CJ § 3–8A–14; Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-19.5):

(a) An officer has probable cause to believe the juvenile committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest or violated a peace order.

(b) There is a valid warrant for the juvenile's arrest (Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-14.1).

An officer should contact the court or an intake officer in cases when there is reason to believe a juvenile offender in custody may need to be detained because the juvenile needs protection, the juvenile is a danger to others, or the juvenile is likely to abscond (Md. Code CJ § 3–8A–15).

901.5 NOTIFICATIONS

When a juvenile is taken into custody, officers should immediately notify the juvenile's parent, guardian, or custodian of the custody, the reason for the custody, the juvenile's location, and how to meet with the juvenile. Other reasonable attempts to communicate this information should be made if direct contact cannot be immediately made (Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-14; Md. Code CP § 2-108). If the juvenile has been taken into protective custody, the officers should also immediately notify the county department of social services (Md. Code CJ § 3-814). If there is reason to believe that the juvenile is a victim of sex or human trafficking, as soon as practicable, officers shall notify the appropriate regional navigator, report to the local department of social services, and release the juvenile to a parent, guardian, or custodian, or to social services, as appropriate (Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-14).

Officers shall complete and forward required written reports, complaints, or citations when applicable, to the Department of Juvenile Services when taking a juvenile into custody in accordance with Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-14 and Md. Code CP § 2-108.

901.5.1 REQUIRED SCHOOL NOTIFICATION

If a juvenile between the ages of 5 and 21 (inclusive) is taken into custody for one of the reportable offenses listed in Md. Code ED § 7-303(a)(6) or for an offense related to the juvenile’s membership in a criminal organization, the officer must notify the following officials of any school the juvenile attends within 24 or as soon as practicable:

- Local superintendent
- School principal
- School security officer (if applicable)

The officer may also notify the State’s Attorney (Md. Code ED § 7-303).

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901.6 JUVENILE CUSTODY LOGS

Any time a juvenile is in temporary custody at the Elkton Police Department, the custody shall be promptly and properly documented in the juvenile custody log, including:

(a) Identifying information about the juvenile.

(b) Date and time of arrival and release from the Department.

(c) Duty Officer notification and approval to temporarily hold the juvenile.

(d) Any charges for which the juvenile is being held and classification of the juvenile as a juvenile offender, status offender or non-offender.

(e) Any changes in status (e.g., emergency situations, unusual incidents).

(f) Time of all safety checks.

(g) Any medical and other screening requested and completed.

(h) Circumstances that justify any secure custody.

(i) Any other information that may be required by other authorities, such as compliance inspectors or a local juvenile court authority.

The arresting or detaining officer should initial the log to approve the temporary custody, including any secure custody, and should initial the log when the juvenile is released.

901.7 NO-CONTACT REQUIREMENTS

Sight and sound separation shall be maintained between all juveniles and adults while in custody at the Elkton Police Department (34 USC § 11133). There should also be sight and sound separation between non-offenders and juvenile and status offenders.

In situations where brief or accidental contact may occur (e.g., during the brief time a juvenile is being fingerprinted and/or photographed in booking), a member of the Department shall maintain a constant, immediate, side-by-side presence with the juvenile or the adult to minimize any contact. If inadvertent or accidental contact does occur, reasonable efforts shall be taken to end the contact.

901.7.1 TRANSPORTATION

A juvenile may not be transported from the field or to another detention facility with any adult who has been charged with or convicted of a crime unless the court has waived its jurisdiction and the juvenile is being prosecuted as an adult (Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-16(c)).

901.8 TEMPORARY CUSTODY REQUIREMENTS

Members and supervisors assigned to monitor or process any juvenile at the Elkton Police Department shall ensure:

(a) The Duty Officer is notified if it is anticipated that a juvenile may need to remain at the Department more than four hours. This will enable the Duty Officer to ensure no juvenile is held at the Department more than six hours.

(b) Safety checks and significant incidents/activities are noted on the log.

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(c) Juveniles in custody are informed that they will be monitored at all times, except when using the toilet.

1. There shall be no viewing devices, such as peep holes or mirrors, of which the juvenile is not aware.
2. This prohibition does not apply to surreptitious and legally obtained recorded interrogations.

(d) A member of the same sex will supervise personal hygiene activities and care, such as changing clothing or using the restroom, without direct observation to allow for privacy.

(e) There is reasonable access to toilets and wash basins.

(f) There is reasonable access to a drinking fountain or water.

(g) Food is provided if a juvenile has not eaten within the past four hours or is otherwise in need of nourishment, including any special diet required for the health of the juvenile.

(h) There are reasonable opportunities to stand and stretch, particularly if handcuffed or otherwise restrained.

(i) There is privacy during family, guardian and/or attorney visits.

(j) Juveniles are generally permitted to remain in their personal clothing unless it is taken as evidence or is otherwise unsuitable or inadequate for continued wear while in custody.

(k) Adequate shelter, heat, light and ventilation are provided without compromising security or enabling escape.

(l) Adequate furnishings are available, including suitable chairs or benches.

(m) Juveniles have the right to the same number of telephone calls as an adult in temporary custody see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy.

(n) Discipline is not administered to any juvenile, nor will juveniles be subjected to corporal or unusual punishment, humiliation or mental abuse.

901.9 RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION

Juveniles have the right to the same religious accommodation as an adult in temporary custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).

901.10 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES

Juvenile offenders may be handcuffed in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. A juvenile offender may be handcuffed at the Elkton Police Department when the juvenile presents a heightened risk. However, non-offenders and status offenders should not be handcuffed unless they are combative or threatening.

Other restraints shall only be used after less restrictive measures have failed and with the approval of the Duty Officer. Restraints shall only be used so long as it reasonably appears necessary for the juvenile's protection or the protection of others.

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Juveniles in restraints shall be kept away from other unrestrained individuals in custody and monitored to protect them from abuse.

901.10.1 PREGNANT JUVENILES

Juveniles who are known to be pregnant should be restrained in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy.

901.11 PERSONAL PROPERTY

The personal property of a juvenile shall be processed in the same manner as an adult in temporary custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).

901.12 SECURE CUSTODY

Only juvenile offenders 13 years of age or older may be placed in secure custody.Secure custody should only be used for juvenile offenders when there is a reasonable belief that the juvenile is a serious risk of harm to him/herself or others.

Members of this department should not use secure custody for convenience when non-secure custody is, or later becomes, a reasonable option.

When practicable, handcuffing one hand of a juvenile offender to a fixed object while otherwise maintaining the juvenile in non-secure custody should be considered as the method of secure custody. A member must be present at all times to ensure the juvenile's safety while secured to a stationary object.

Generally, juveniles should not be secured to a stationary object for more than 60 minutes. Supervisor approval is required to secure a juvenile to a stationary object for longer than 60 minutes and every 30 minutes thereafter. Supervisor approval should be documented.

901.12.1 LOCKED ENCLOSURES

A thorough inspection of the area shall be conducted before placing a juvenile into the locked enclosure to ensure there are no weapons or contraband and that the area is clean and sanitary. An inspection should be conducted when the juvenile is released. Any damage noted to the area should be photographed and documented.

The following requirements shall apply:

(a) Anything that could create a security or suicide risk, such as contraband, hazardous items, belts, shoes or shoelaces, and jackets, shall be removed.

(b) The juvenile shall constantly be monitored by an audio/video system during the entire temporary custody.

(c) The juvenile shall have constant auditory access to department members.

(d) The juvenile's initial placement into and removal from a locked enclosure shall be logged.

(e) Unscheduled safety checks by department members shall occur no less than every 15 minutes.

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1. All safety checks shall be logged.
2. The safety check should involve questioning the juvenile as to his/her well-being.
3. Juveniles who are sleeping or apparently sleeping should be awakened.
4. Requests or concerns of the juvenile should be logged.

(f) Males and females shall not be placed in the same locked room.

(g) Juvenile offenders should be separated according to severity of the crime (e.g., felony or misdemeanor).

(h) Restrained juveniles shall not be placed in a cell or room with unrestrained juveniles.

901.13 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH, OR SERIOUS INJURY

The Field Operations Bureau Commander will ensure procedures are in place to address any suicide attempt, death, or serious injury of any juvenile held at the Elkton Police Department. The procedures should include the following:

(a) Immediate request for emergency medical assistance if appropriate

(b) Immediate notification of the Duty Officer, Bureau Commander, Criminal Investigation Division, and the Chief of Police as soon as practical.

(c) Notification of the parent, guardian, or person standing in loco parentis, of the juvenile

(d) Notification of the appropriate prosecutor

(e) Notification of the Town Attorney

(f) Notification of the Medical Examiner

(g) Notification of the juvenile court

(h) Evidence preservation

901.14 INTERVIEWING OR INTERROGATING

No interview or interrogation of a juvenile should occur unless the juvenile has the apparent capacity to consent, and does consent, to an interview or interrogation.

No custodial interrogation of a juvenile should occur without the juvenile having consulted with an attorney and without an actual or attempted contact of a parent, guardian, or custodian as set forth in Md. Code CJ § 3–8A–14.2 (Md. Code CJ § 3–8A–14.2; Md. Code CP § 2-405). Associated documentation of the attorney contacted and the contact or efforts to contact a parent, guardian, or custodian are also to be made (Md. Code CJ § 3–8A–14.2; Md. Code CP § 2-405).

All custodial interrogations of juveniles should be recorded in an audio and video format (e.g., body-worn camera) and only after the juvenile is advised the interrogation will be recorded (Md. Code CJ § 3–8A–14.2; Md. Code CP § 2-405).

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901.15 RESTRICTION ON FINGERPRINTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING

Any department record, including fingerprints and photographs, concerning a child is confidential and shall be maintained separate from those of adults. These may not be divulged, by subpoena or otherwise, except by order of the court upon good cause shown or as otherwise provided by law (Md. Code CJ § 3-8A-27(a)).

901.16 TRAINING

Department members should be trained on and familiar with this policy and any supplemental procedures.

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