

DATE:	MAY 9, 2022
NUMBER:	I.7
SUBJECT:	RIOT AND DISORDER POLICY
RELATED SECTIONS:	I.32 , Addendum F, 404 P.C.

PURPOSE:

To establish criteria by which riots or disorders are quelled and control re-established.

POLICY:

All detentions personnel will be constantly alert for any pre-indications of possible unrest within the facility that could result in a riot or disorder. This information is to be relayed to the watch commander for resolution to preclude such action, if possible. If spontaneous actions by incarcerated persons occur or if resolution has not been successful and a riot or disorder occurs within a detention facility, the goal will be quelling of the disorder in the most expeditious manner possible while protecting life and property of staff and incarcerated persons. Preservation of life shall be the first concern during such situations. This policy will be reviewed annually.

PROCEDURE:

I. RIOT AND DISORDER DEFINED

- A. **Riotous Situations:** A condition of riot may exist in the event of two or more incarcerated persons assaulting any official, destroying county property, banding together to resist authority, refusing to return to housing units or any covert act which would be detrimental to the orderly routine of the jail. (PC § 404 (a) and (b)).
- B. **Riots Assume Various Forms:** Some are spontaneous, triggered by an incident after an accumulation of tension in the jail. Others are race riots and gang fights. Other riotous situations may be found to be a reflection of the prevalence of violent protest in the free community.

II. PLAN OF ACTION

- A. **Priorities:** This policy will be executed in the most expedient manner possible, realizing that priorities will be given in the following order:
 - 1. General public safety
 - 2. Safety of all hostages
 - 3. Safety of all other personnel
 - 4. Incarcerated persons welfare and safety
 - 5. Protection of property
 - 6. To restore order and control
 - 7. Identification, arrest and legal prosecution

B. Communication:

1. The Alarm: Immediate communication by staff members observing a riotous disturbance should be made to the control deputy who will notify the watch commander and supervisor responsible for the affected area. The supervisor will activate response to the disturbance. A first-line sworn supervisor, usually the sergeant, will direct pre-selected staff to the scene. Once a riotous condition has been confirmed, the watch commander will notify the Communications Center, facility commander and the detention facility operations commander.

2. **Safety/Security Interests - 7922.000**



C. Establishment of Control:

1. The final objective of all action is to restore order with as little injury to persons and property as possible, and to achieve complete control over all facility activity. As conditions permit, every effort must be exercised to identify riot leaders, and all other incarcerated persons who riot, or incite to riot. Additionally, any other criminal offenses will be documented for possible criminal prosecution.
2. Incarcerated persons, who are seemingly unwilling to participate, will be given opportunity to leave the riot area, and when possible returned to their housing units. Control is established when hostages, if any, are released, rioters quelled, and all involved incarcerated persons are locked-down under guard.
3. Nervous tension of both incarcerated persons and personnel will be a delicate state for sometime after a major disturbance. The sooner a relatively normal atmosphere can be restored, the better. A detailed investigation of the occurrence will be made via interrogation of incarcerated persons and staff participants, and through a thorough inspection of the facility to determine the extent of damages. A photographic record of the damage will be made before making immediate repairs; and all reports shall be submitted to the facility commander via the chain of command. Most of the work and other programs may be suspended for a brief time.
4. If actual suspension of Title 15 Minimum Standards occurs, and lasts longer than three (3) days, a written report to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) is required. If suspension of standards lasts beyond 15 days, it will be necessary to obtain written approval from the chairman of the BSCC. Isolation of the actual ringleaders and separation of others on grounds of circumstantial

suspicion will remove the focal points of agitation from the rest of the incarcerated population and lower the emotional temperature. Just as soon as it seems safe to do so, the return to work can begin with the objective of restoring the whole institution to normal.

III. USE OF FORCE

Conditions for Use of Firearms: Only that force deemed necessary and objectively reasonable to restore order will be employed. Condition for use of firearms and physical force are to be determined by factual circumstances of occurrence to protect persons from death or serious bodily injury and only when authorized by the facility commander or designee. Firearms and gas equipment may be utilized only where there is an immediate threat to life and there is insufficient time to secure the services of the Sheriff's Special Enforcement Detail (SED).