EXECUTIVE ORDER

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this executive order is to amend the procedures contained in GO-PCA-502.01 (Transportation and Searches of Prisoners) regarding wagon transports.

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) recently acquired two transport wagons that have a separate side-loading compartment (i.e., a large, separate cell located in the forward section of the wagon). This directive provides the requirements for the use of those new wagons and reminds members of the existing procedures for the use of safety bar restraints in the rear compartment of transport wagons.

II. REGULATIONS

A. New, Side-loading Compartments

1. Members shall use the side-loading compartment for prisoners who cannot be secured using the safety bar restraint for any reason (e.g., prisoner size, combative prisoner).

2. Members shall not place more than one prisoner in the side-loading compartment.

   NOTE: The side-loading compartment’s maximum capacity is one prisoner.

3. Members shall be aware that it is a federal requirement that prisoners in a side-loading compartment shall be belted in the seat.

   NOTE: The new wagons have windows in the forward and rear compartment, so the rear and front prisoners can be seen by the operators, and the rear compartment of the new wagons has the same
III. PROCEDURES

A. Transporting Prisoners in the New, Forward, Side-loading Compartment

1. Members shall ensure that the prisoner is belted into the seat while in the side-loading compartment.

   NOTE: The seat belt design in the side-loading compartment was changed to minimize the member’s exposure to the prisoner. Members can buckle the prisoner into the seat from outside the wagon.

2. Members shall inform the prisoner that there are grab straps for additional support while being transported.

3. Members shall be aware that there is an additional buckle in the side-loading compartment for use with larger prisoners.

4. When the additional buckle for large prisoners is not being used, members shall ensure that it is properly stored in its receiver.

5. Members shall be aware that the side-compartment is **not** designed for prisoners in wheelchairs.

B. Reminder Regarding Transporting Prisoners in Wagon Transports

1. Members are reminded when transporting prisoners in the rear compartment of a transport wagon, they shall:

   a. Use safety bar restraints to secure prisoners prior to their transport.

   b. Ensure that prisoners are seated and informed of the handles available for their safety during the transport.

   c. Contact the watch commander and be guided by his or her direction in the event a prisoner cannot be secured in a transport wagon for any reason.

2. Watch commanders are reminded that they shall ensure that transport wagons are only put in service if they are equipped with safety bar restraints.
IV.  POINT OF CONTACT

Members shall direct all questions to the Policy Development Branch at (mpd.policy@dc.gov).

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Chief of Police

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