



North Eastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC)

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Policy

It is the policy of NEMLEC to have plans for mass arrest that include provisions for prisoner and officer security, as well as facilitation of the restoration of order by means of lawful arrest. Although alternatives to mass arrests should be sought, contingency plans are made in the event such action becomes necessary to facilitate the restoration of order.

I. ARREST AND PROCESSING

- A. In the event it becomes necessary to make a large number of arrests, the Department receiving mutual aid from NEMLEC ("Receiving Department"), also known as the Host Department, shall assign a member or members to supervise the coordination of the arrests at the disturbance site and identification of prisoners. The officer in charge shall also establish a nearby holding area for initial processing and to await transportation.
- B. It is intent of this section to institute procedures designed to ensure that the information required for processing of arrestees is documented as early as possible during the event.
- C. Upon arrival to a holding area, the prisoner shall be secured in proper restraints.
- D. The Receiving Department shall use identification tags OR a photograph or video recording to ensure proper identification of the prisoner together with the arresting officer.
- E. If identification is achieved through use of a photograph, persons arrested shall be identified and photographed with a Polaroid camera, or other similar instant photography. If possible, the arresting officer shall be photographed together with the prisoner. The following information will be noted on a label affixed to the back of each photograph:
 - i. Date and time;
 - ii. Prisoner's name, date of birth, and social security number;
 - iii. Location of arrest;
 - iv. Offense charged; and
 - v. Arresting officer's name and ID number.

These photos will be sent with the officer(s) in charge of the prisoners when they are transported for booking at the jail or temporary detention area.

- F. If identification is achieved through use of identification tags, the arresting officer shall fill out and secure an identification tag to the cuffs of the prisoner. If the arresting officer, because of tactical reasons, cannot immediately fill out the identification tag, then the person who takes possession of the arrestee shall document on the tag the name of the arresting officer and other pertinent information, which in all cases shall include the following information:
 - i. name and ID number of arresting officer;
 - ii. name and date of birth of the prisoner;
 - iii. the offense charged.
- G. Juvenile arrestees shall be segregated from adults and processed in accordance with established departmental juvenile procedures of the Receiving Department.
- H. Medical treatment shall be afforded to any injured prisoner immediately.
- I. Transportation immediately following arrest should be arranged by the Receiving Department. Any available NEMLEC vehicle capable and appropriate for transporting one or more prisoners may be used to supplement the resources of the Receiving Department.

II. EVIDENCE COLLECTION

- A. Officers shall be conscious of the need to seize and secure evidence of any applicable crime during mass arrests, in accordance with established procedures of the Receiving Department.
- B. Officers shall make notes of any testimonial evidence necessary to support a given charge. They shall secure their field notes to the photograph of the arrestee.

III. MEDIA RELATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION

- A. At the discretion of the Chief of the Receiving Department, the NEMLEC Public Information Officer will coordinate and provide information to members of the news media regarding the incident, in accordance with the NEMLEC Public Information Policy.

IV. POST INCIDENT DEBRIEFING

- A. After order has been restored, a debriefing session should be scheduled involving the Chief of the Receiving Department and its supervisors, together with all NEMLEC Control Chiefs, Commanders and Officers in Charge in order to prepare for future incidents.