

1.3 Transportation (by Land)

I. Purpose and Scope

This detention standard prevents harm to the general public, detainees and staff by ensuring that vehicles used for transporting detainees are properly equipped, maintained and operated and that detainees are transported in a secure, safe and humane manner, under the supervision of trained and experienced staff.

This detention standard applies to the following types of facilities housing ERO detainees:

- Service Processing Centers (SPCs);
- Contract Detention Facilities (CDFs); and
- State or local government facilities used by ERO through Intergovernmental Service Agreements (IGSAs) to hold detainees for more than 72 hours.

Procedures in italics are specifically required for SPCs, CDFs, and Dedicated IGSA facilities. Non-dedicated IGSA facilities must conform to these procedures or adopt, adapt or establish alternatives, provided they meet or exceed the intent represented by these procedures.

Various terms used in this standard may be defined in standard “7.5 Definitions.”

II. Expected Outcomes

The expected outcomes of this detention standard are as follows (specific requirements are defined in “V. Expected Practices”).

1. The general public, detainees and staff shall be protected from harm when detainees are transported.

2. Vehicles used for transporting detainees shall be properly equipped, maintained and operated. This includes equipment appropriate and necessary to transport detainees with disabilities and special needs.
3. Detainees shall be transported in a safe and humane manner, under the supervision of trained and experienced staff.
4. Except in emergency situations, a single officer may not transport a single detainee of the opposite gender. Further, if there is an expectation that a pat down will occur during transport an officer of the same gender as the detainee(s) must be present.
5. Reasonable accommodations shall be made for detainees with physical disabilities and/or special needs in accordance with security and safety needs and all applicable laws and regulations.
6. All instructions shall be communicated to the detainee in a language or manner the detainee can understand.

All written materials provided to detainees shall generally be translated into Spanish. Where practicable, provisions for written translation shall be made for other significant segments of the population with limited English proficiency.

Oral interpretation or assistance shall be provided to any detainee who speaks another language in which written material has not been translated or who is illiterate.

III. Standards Affected

This detention standard replaces “Transportation (Land Transportation)” dated 12/2/2008.

IV. References

American Correctional Association, *Performance-*

based Standards for Adult Local Detention Facilities, 4th Edition: 4-ALDF-1B-01, 1B-03, 1B-04, 1B-05, 1B-06

ICE/ERO Performance-based National Detention Standards 2011:

- “1.1 Emergency Plans”;
- “2.1 Admission and Release”;
- “2.5 Funds and Personal Property”;
- “2.9 Post Orders”;
- “2.15 Use of Force and Restraints”;
- “4.1 Food Service”;
- “4.7 Terminal Illness, Advance Directives and Death”;
- “7.4 Transfer of Detainees.”

Memorandum dated 7/14/2006 on “Escape Reporting” from the ICE/ERO Director, which specifies requirements for the reporting, tracking and investigating of the escape of an ICE/ERO detainee.

V. Expected Practices

A. Written Policy and Procedures Required

The facility administrator shall develop and implement written policy, procedures and guidelines for the transportation of detainees, including, at a minimum:

1. general policy and procedures governing safety, security, operations, communications and equipment;
2. vehicle inspections and repair;
3. vehicle occupancy;
4. the seating of detainees in transportation vehicles; and

5. procedures and necessary equipment in the event of:
 - a. vehicle failure;
 - b. traffic accident;
 - c. severe weather or natural disaster;
 - d. an emergency situation (as specified later in “S. Emergency Situations” of this standard);
 - e. transport of females or minors; and
 - f. transport of detainees whose physical or mental conditions preclude prolonged travel.

B. Vehicle Inspection

All vehicles used for transporting ICE/ERO detainees shall comply with annual safety inspections requirements in accordance with applicable federal and state law. Vehicles may not be used for transportation if any safety repairs are needed. Vehicles equipped with specialized gear for the transportation of detainees with physical disabilities must also undergo appropriate inspections and maintenance to ensure the equipment remains in good order.

C. Transportation Planning and Scheduling

The Field Office Director has overall responsibility for all aspects of vehicle operations.

The facility administrator (or designee) is responsible for setting schedules and monitoring vehicular maintenance, making logistical arrangements to transport detainees, supervising and instructing personnel, and protecting detainee security. Before departure, the plans shall be revised as necessary, based on weather and road conditions and any other relevant considerations.

D. Transporting Officer Responsibilities

1. Training Required

To be assigned to a bus transporting detainees, an officer must have successfully completed the ICE/ERO bus driver-training program, or a comparable approved training program, and all local state requirements for a commercial driver's license (CDL). In addition, the driver must have the appropriate state issued CDL.

Bus-driver trainees may operate the vehicle during any segment of a run when detainees are not on board, but only under the direct supervision of a certified bus instructor licensed by the state in which they reside.

2. Forms and Files

For each vehicle operator and other employees assigned to bus transportation duties, supervisors shall maintain at the official duty station a file containing:

- a. certificate of completion from a bus training program, as applicable;
- b. copy of the CDL;
 - 1) *every motor vehicle operator shall complete the following forms (or equivalent) for his/her official personnel folder (OPF): SF-47, G-392 and G-294. Every motor vehicle operator is also responsible for renewing these documents as necessary, and for providing to the OPF copies of all renewals and other changes/updates.*

3. Operating the Vehicle

The driver shall operate the vehicle in accordance with the CDL manual or the highest prevailing standard and must maintain complete control of the vehicle at all times.

Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol is prohibited. In addition to any other random testing as part of a drug-free workplace program, all officers assigned to transportation are subject to the

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) drug—and alcohol—testing program.

The transporting officers shall comply with all state and federal motor vehicle regulations (including DOT, Interstate Commerce Commission and Environmental Protection Agency), including, but not limited to:

- a. wearing a seat belt when the vehicle is moving;
- b. holding a valid state issued CDL;
- c. inspecting the vehicle, using a checklist and noting any defect that may render the vehicle unsafe or inoperable;
- d. transporting detainees in a safe and humane manner;
- e. verifying individual identities and checking documentation when transferring or receiving detainees;
- f. driving defensively, taking care to protect the vehicle and occupants, obeying traffic laws and immediately reporting damage or accidents;
- g. re-inspecting the vehicle after each trip and completing a vehicle inspection report, including an odometer reading;
- h. returning the vehicle keys to the control officer or supervisor, according to facility procedures;
- i. recording authorized expenses (e.g., fuel, emergency services, oil) on Form G-205 or (applicable current form; in event of an update, use the “Government-owned Vehicle Record”), specifying the exact amount and the date, and keeping all receipts and submitting them along with the appropriate form at the end of each month; and
- j. Safeguarding credit cards assigned to the vehicle.

4. Driving Hours and Number of Operators

Each officer must recognize the limitations imposed

by his/her own driving skills, personal distractions and environmental conditions, and must modify his/her driving accordingly. The following rules apply to all members of the vehicle crew, whether driving or not, and it is the officer's responsibility to inform a transportation supervisor if he/she is unable to make a trip because of these rules:

- a. CDL is required for each officer assigned to bus operations.
- b. While operating a vehicle requiring a CDL, drivers must comply with all rules and regulations pertaining to CDL operations.
- c. Drivers must be off-duty for the eight (8) hours immediately before any trip or trip segment.
- d. Maximum driving time (i.e., time on the road) is governed by USDOT.
- e. In an emergency or under unforeseen and adverse driving conditions only, the vehicle crew may drive as long as necessary to reach a safe and secure stopping area.
- f. When vehicles without detainees travel in tandem, a single officer may be assigned to each. Unaccompanied officers may also drive empty vehicles for certain purposes, such as maintenance trips.

5. Vehicle Security

Officers shall secure a vehicle before leaving it unattended, including removing keys from the ignition immediately upon parking the vehicle.

Officers shall avoid parking in a spot where the vehicle may attract undue attention or be vulnerable to vandalism or sabotage. If officers cannot locate a parking area with adequate security, they shall contact the local law enforcement agency for advice or permission to use one of its parking places.

E. Officer Uniform and Equipment

All officers transporting ICE/ERO detainees shall wear their prescribed uniforms unless other attire is authorized by the facility administrator.

1. Every transporting officer shall wear a uniform in accordance with established procedures. Certain transportation details may require wearing of street or business attire; in these cases, the facility administrator shall establish a dress code for such occasions. The dress code shall prohibit the wearing of jumpsuits.
2. Every transporting officer shall be issued and instructed to wear a protective vest while participating in the transportation program.
3. Equipment recommended for each trip includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. flashlights;
 - b. extra handcuffs;
 - c. flex-cuffs and cutter; and
 - d. other authorized intermediate force (“non-lethal,” “non-deadly”) weapons.

F. Pre-departure Vehicle and Security Check

Prior to departure, all officers assigned to transport detainees must be present to ensure a complete and thorough inspection and search, and shall:

1. inspect the vehicle for mechanical and electrical problems;
2. take any necessary special precautionary measures for transporting a detainee identified as a special-handling case (e.g., for reasons of security, medical, physical, psychological problems, and/or transporting juveniles) while the search is in progress;
3. test the emergency exits and test the key for every lock located in or on the vehicle. A complete set of these keys shall travel with the

vehicle at all times, in a secure place known to every transporting officer;

4. search for hidden weapons and other contraband before every trip, including the driver's compartment and glove compartment, the detainee seating area and the cargo compartment;
5. search the staging area prior to loading detainees to ensure that the area is clear of any weapons or contraband;
6. thoroughly search each detainee as he/she is about to board the vehicle; and
7. ensure that when vehicles are equipped with seatbelts, detainees are properly secured before the transport begins according to established ICE policies and procedures regarding searches.

G. Required Documents

1. Transport Documentation

No detainee may be transported to/from any facility, including Field Office detention areas, unless a Form G-391, I-216, I-203, or equivalent, is furnished, authorizing the removal. These forms must be properly signed and shall clearly indicate the name of the detainee(s), the place or places to be escorted, the purpose of the trip and other information necessary to carry out the detail efficiently.

In SPCs, CDFs, and IGSAs with a sufficient ICE/ERO onsite presence, the authorized ICE official shall check records and ascertain if the detainee has a criminal history, is dangerous or has an escape record. Any information of an adverse nature shall be clearly indicated on the G-391 and the escorting officers shall be warned to take the necessary precautions. Before beginning the detail, escorting and transportation officers shall read their instructions and clearly understand the reason that the detainee is being taken from the facility. The

officers shall also discuss emergency and alternate plans with the SIEA or authorized designee before beginning the detail.

All completed G-391 forms, or equivalents shall be filed in order by month, with the previous month's forms readily available for review, and shall be retained for a minimum of three years.

2. Documents That Accompany the Detainee

The Directive on Detainee Transfers explains the files and documents that must be prepared and organized in preparation for a detainee's transfer. ICE/ERO staff of the sending facility is required to complete a Detainee Transfer Checklist to ensure all procedures are completed and place a copy in the detainee's A-file or work folder.

The Directive on Detainee Transfers also requires that, when a detainee is transferred within the ICE Health Services Corps (IHSC) system, a Transfer Summary and the detainee's official health records accompany the detainee. The official health records are to be placed in a sealed envelope or other container labeled with the detainee's name and A-number and marked "Confidential Medical Records."

Transportation staff may not transport a detainee without the documents as required by the Directive on Detainee Transfers. Staff is responsible for delivering all required medical documents and the transfer summary to personnel at the receiving facility.

To ensure that the receiving facility also receives the detainee's files and other required documentation:

- a. transportation officers may not accept a detainee without the required documents;
- b. the receiving facility may refuse to accept a detainee without the required documents; and

- c. the receiving facility must report any exceptions to the Field Office and the Deputy Assistant Director, Detention Management Division.

H. Departure Scheduling and Security

The vehicle crew shall organize driving time so detainees arrive at the designated meeting area on schedule.

Before transferring detainees from one facility to another, a designated officer shall inform the receiving office of:

1. the estimated time of departure and arrival (ETD/ETA);
2. the number of detainees in each of the following categories:
 - a. new arrivals (remaining at the facility);
 - b. drop-offs; and
 - c. overnights;
3. the total number of detainees;
4. any special-handling cases, with details about the special requirements (e.g., medications, restraints, special equipment); and
5. any actual or estimated delays in departure, and the accordingly revised ETA(s).

I. Transfer of Funds, Valuables and Personal Property

In accordance with standards “2.1 Admission and Release” and “2.5 Funds and Personal Property,” facility staff shall inspect and inventory the personal property of detainees transferring from one facility to another.

In addition, at the originating facility:

1. Staff shall ask each detainee whether he/she has in his/her possession all funds, valuables and other personal property listed on the property

inventory form:

- a. If a detainee answers “yes,” he/she may board the vehicle; or
 - b. If a detainee claims missing funds, valuables, or personal property, the detainee shall remain at the facility until required paperwork is completed. Photocopies of completed forms are sufficient documentation for the transfer to proceed.
2. Staff shall include, in the “checked baggage” section on each I-216, the I-77 numbers, to be verified by receiving facility staff;
 3. The lead driver shall check the manifest against the number of packages by detainee name and A-number before signing the I-216 or placing the baggage on the bus.
 4. In addition to the requirements of standard “2.5 Funds and Personal Property”:
 - a. Staff shall complete a separate I-77 for each piece of baggage, and shall record the detainee’s name on the top, middle, and bottom portions; and
 - b. Staff shall enact the following procedure for each piece of baggage and corresponding I-77 form, and:
 - 1) attach the string on the top of the I-77 to the corresponding piece of baggage, and secure the detainee’s signature on the back of the I-77;
 - 2) attach the middle section to the copy of the I-385 that shall accompany the detainee to the final destination; and
 - 3) provide the bottom portion to the detainee as a receipt.

J. Loading a Vehicle

1. Security and Occupancy

Armed officers shall be posted whenever detainees enter or exit a vehicle outside a secure area.

The facility administrator shall ensure that all vehicles are assigned an occupancy rating in compliance with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). The number of detainees transported may not exceed the established occupancy level.

The escorting officer/assistant driver shall instruct the detainees about rules of conduct during the trip.

The lead driver shall be responsible for managing the detainees' move from the staging area into the vehicle. The number of available officers shall determine whether detainees move at one time or in groups.

2. Items Detainees May Keep in Their Possession

Ordinarily, detainees in transport may keep the following in their possession: jewelry (wedding rings and approved religious items), eyeglasses, and receipts for property and money (G-589, I-77).

However, if the transporting officers determine that any of these items may compromise officer or detainee safety, the items shall be removed from the detainee's possession and returned to the detainee or placed in an appropriate storage area.

In some instances, the vehicle crew shall safeguard and dispense prescription medicines as prescribed, noting the detainee's name, A-number, date and time(s) dispensed, and by whom. Such notes shall be attached to the detainee's medical record or A-file.

3. Count, Identification, and Seating

To confirm the identities of the detainees they are transporting, the vehicle crew shall:

- a. summon the detainee, by surname, to the vehicle;
- b. ask detainee to state his/her complete name;

- c. compare name and face with the Booking Card (I-385) or equivalent and attached photo and the Record of Persons and Property Transferred (I-216) or equivalent. If necessary, refer to the I-385 or equivalent for additional biographical information;
- d. seat each detainee in accordance with written procedures from the facility administrator, with particular attention to detainees with physical or mental health conditions, or who may need to be afforded closer observation for their own safety;
- e. to transport disabled detainees safely and securely, transportation officers shall make reasonable accommodations for them, in so far as is practicable;
- f. seat detainees in restraints (whose documents or behavior in transit indicate a security risk) in the first seats behind the security screen and record in a log maintained by the officers the detainee's name, reason for using restraints, type of restraints, and times restraints were applied and removed;
- g. conduct a visual count once all passengers are seated on board, and every time before resuming the trip after the vehicle makes a scheduled or unscheduled stop; and
- h. assist detainees with disabilities and special needs to their designated seat and ensure females and minors are seated according to the directives in section T of this standard.

K. Responsibilities En Route

1. Point of Contact

The next receiving office on the vehicle route serves as the contact point and is responsible for monitoring the vehicle's schedule.

Upon making contact with an arriving vehicle, the receiving officers shall certify, by signing the

accompanying Form I-216, that they are taking custody of the specified detainees.

Each office shall develop and post written guidelines for tracing procedures to locate an overdue vehicle. If the vehicle does not arrive within range of the ETA, the contact point shall set the tracing procedures in motion.

2. Safety and Security

For safety purposes, all personnel shall remain seated while the vehicle is in motion.

The vehicle crew shall keep the cage doors locked whenever detainees are on board, and the assistant driver is responsible for detainee oversight during transport. Officers must maintain a clear view of the entire vehicle compartment and remain alert for behavior that could jeopardize safety and security.

Detainees shall not have access to any personal baggage or packages while in transit (except as specified above in “Section J.2, Items Detainees May Keep in Their Possession”).

A complete set of keys for every lock located in or on the vehicle shall travel with the vehicle at all times, in a secure place known to every transporting officer, and the crew shall keep bolt cutters in the forward compartment with the outer equipment for use in an emergency.

An armed officer may not enter the secure area of the vehicle. If he/she must enter that area, the officer shall first leave the weapon(s) with another officer for safekeeping or, if the vehicle is equipped with weapons lockers, in a locker.

3. Stops

During stops, which the vehicle crew shall keep to a minimum, detainees shall not leave the vehicle until the transporting officers have secured the area. When the detainees disembark, the officers shall keep them under constant observation to prevent

external contact(s) and/or contraband smuggling or exchange. At least one officer shall remain in the vehicle when one or more detainees are present.

L. Meals

The vehicle crew shall provide meals and snacks during any transfer that exceeds six hours. Officers shall consider when the detainees last ate before serving meals and snacks. Special considerations shall be given to minors, pregnant female detainees, and detainees who have medical conditions.

Meal times, the number of meals, and the number and types of meals provided shall be recorded. Officers also shall record the identifying information of any detainee who refuses a meal and that information shall be appropriately documented.

The requirements specified in standard “4.1 Food Service” apply equally to food served in transit and in detention facilities.

In the interest of safety, detainees shall have no access to eating utensils (disposable or otherwise) while in transit.

Transporting officers shall observe safe-handling procedures at all times.

In transit, the crew shall store and serve food at the required temperatures. The crew shall maintain a constant supply of drinking water and ice in the water container(s), along with paper cups. A small number of disposable garbage receptacles (i.e., plastic bags) shall be kept in the driver’s compartment, with the remainder stored in the equipment box located in the forward baggage compartment.

The food service administrator shall monitor the condition and routine cleansing and sterilizing of drinking-water containers, basins, latrines, etc., in vehicles to ensure compliance with standard “4.1 Food Service.”

In an emergency, the transporting officers may purchase meals from a commercial source, obtaining receipts for later reimbursement.

M. Vehicle Communication

Every vehicle shall be equipped with a functioning two-way radio. Every crew shall also carry at least one portable radio, so that officers can maintain contact if one or more must leave the vehicle. The vehicle's communications system shall also include a cellular phone for use when radio communications are degraded (e.g., in dead zones, on different frequencies).

N. Vehicle Sanitation

Vehicles must be kept clean and sanitary at all times. The facility administrator shall establish the procedures and schedule for sanitizing facility vehicles. Vehicle crew responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. dumping septic tank contents at the locations specified; and
2. maintaining an adequate supply of water and chemicals in the toilet at all times, including monitoring the inventory of chemical supplies stored in the forward baggage compartment.

O. Officer Conduct

Recognizing the effect of personal appearance, speech, conduct and demeanor in communicating the appropriate sense of authority, assigned transportation staff shall dress, speak and act with the utmost professionalism. Assigned transportation staff shall conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on ICE/ERO.

The vehicle crew falls under the responsibility of the Field Office Director with jurisdiction at each facility en route, whether during an intermediate stop or at final destination. This responsibility remains in effect until the vehicle's departure, and

applies only to the current trip. If problems arise, the lead driver must contact the Field Office Director, or designee.

Transportation staff shall comply with all rules and procedures governing use of government vehicles. They shall not transport any personal items other than those needed to carry out their assigned duties during the trip. The possession or use of alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs is strictly prohibited.

Using common sense, transportation staff shall handle any crises that may arise. While treating all persons with courtesy and respect, they shall not compromise security or the accomplishment of their mission.

P. Firearms Storage

Every facility administrator shall ensure that the on-site supply of gun lockers can accommodate the non-resident vehicle crews during stops at the facility.

Q. Vehicle Equipment

In SPCs and CDFs, the Field Office will provide the following equipment as appropriate for each vehicle:

1. *mobile radio(s) able to communicate on frequencies used by Border Patrol and/or other law enforcement agencies;*
2. *cellular phone (backup communication system);*
3. *in the forward baggage compartment, of buses, two equipment boxes containing:*
 - a. *(in box #1:) large bolt cutters, fuses, fan belts, jack, small hand tools, flashlight, lantern, rags, disposable trash bags, broom, ground cloth, two sets of coveralls, and work gloves (fleet officer/shop supervisor maintains inventory and checks written inventory quarterly);*

- b. *(in box #2:) transmission fluid, water for radiator, oil, toilet disinfectant, extra fire extinguisher(s), road flares, and reflectors (transporting officers record amount and date used and by whom on inventory sheets kept in box #2, likewise maintaining MSDS sheets as necessary); and*
 - c. *other equipment to be added as necessary (transporting officers shall provide supervisors with written notification of inventory needs, including items that need replenishing or replacing).*
4. *first-aid equipment bag (disaster kit), auxiliary to the first-aid kit in the driver's compartment (officers shall document each emergency requiring first-aid treatment, including whether and how quickly the injured individual(s) received proper medical care);*
 5. *emergency blankets equal to the rated capacity of the vehicle;*
 6. *boarding bag containing extra forms, a camera that produces instant photographs, film, batteries, and emergency phone numbers for ICE/ERO offices, local police, state police, etc.;*
 7. *spare tire and snow chains (if applicable);*
 8. *restraining equipment, including, at a minimum:*
 - a. *on buses: 50 sets of waist chains; 50 sets of leg irons; and 2 sets of leg irons modified for use as hand cuffs (extra-large); or*
 - b. *on other vehicles: equipment equal to the rated capacity of the vehicle.*
 9. All restraining equipment must be of high quality and must be maintained in good operating condition and kept in the forward baggage compartment with the other supplies; and
 10. appropriate storage for firearms.

The vehicle crew shall determine which safety and security equipment to use in an emergency. The crew shall maintain restraints and other equipment in good working order.

R. Use of Restraints

In accordance with this standard and “2.15 Use of Force and Restraints,” officers shall use authorized techniques and common sense when applying restraints. To ensure safe and humane treatment, the officers shall check the fit of restraining devices immediately after application, at every relay point, and any time the detainee complains. Properly fitting restraints do not restrict breathing or blood circulation.

The officers shall double-lock the restraining device(s) and secure the handcuffs to the waist chain. Under no circumstances shall officers attach a restraining device to an immovable object, including, but not limited to, security bars, seats, steering wheel, or any other part of a vehicle. Officers carrying firearms shall exercise caution if close contact with a detainee becomes necessary in an emergency.

Barring exigent circumstances, transporting officers shall not handcuff women or minors unless they have shown or threatened violent behavior, have a history of criminal activity, or an articulable likelihood of escape exists. If an exception arises, the officers shall document the incident, recording the facts and the reasoning behind the decision.

S. Emergency Situations

If an emergency occurs within a reasonable distance of an ICE/ERO office, assigned transportation staff shall make every effort to reach that office before taking extraordinary measures. However, if moving seems ill-advised or impossible, assigned transportation staff shall contact the office, stating their location and the nature of the problem, to

ensure provisions for secure and immediate assistance.

If the situation is life-threatening, the vehicle crew shall not wait for help from an ICE/ERO office but shall take immediate action.

The facility administrator shall establish written procedures for transportation staff to follow during an en-route emergency. The written procedures shall cover the following scenarios.

1. Attack

If attacked, the vehicle crew must request assistance from the nearest law enforcement agency, continuing to drive until the vehicle becomes incapacitated. The transportation staff shall do everything possible to protect the safety of everyone in the vehicle.

2. Escape

If a detainee escapes, the assigned transportation staff shall not jeopardize the security of the remaining detainees by chasing the escapee. Instead, transportation staff shall notify the nearest ICE/ERO office, providing the escapee's name, A-number, height, weight, type of clothing, and direction of flight (if known). The office shall relay this information directly to local law enforcement agencies.

The vehicle crew shall prepare a fully documented written report of the escape and/or attempted escape.

3. Hostages

If a hostage situation occurs on board the vehicle, at least one assigned transportation staff member shall secure the vehicle perimeter while another notifies the closest ICE/ERO office of the situation. The assigned transportation staff shall make every effort to determine who is involved and whether they are armed, relaying this information to the

ICE/ERO office and local law enforcement agencies. Under no circumstances shall an assigned transportation officer bargain with or take orders from the hostage-taker(s), regardless of the status or rank of the hostage(s).

The vehicle crew shall hold all detainees on board until help arrives, in the event that the hostage-taker(s) allow(s) non-participants to disembark. Regardless of demands, the transportation staff shall not allow any hostage-taker(s) off the bus, with or without the hostages.

Because of the need to interview witnesses, examine the crime scene, etc., a hostage situation shall effectively end a transportation assignment. Once the hostage situation is resolved, assigned transportation staff shall receive instructions regarding how and where to proceed.

The vehicle crew's incident report shall note participants, witnesses and action taken.

4. Illness

If a detainee becomes ill while in transit, the assigned transportation staff shall take appropriate action and alert the receiving office in order to prepare to handle the situation.

If a detainee becomes ill while in transit and the illness requires immediate medical treatment (e.g., in event of a heart attack), assigned transportation staff shall request assistance from the nearest medical facility, local law enforcement agencies and emergency services. The transportation staff shall initiate life-saving procedures as time-appropriate, proceeding if security permits. The closest ICE/ERO office shall prepare procurement paperwork and make arrangements for hospitalization, security, etc.

5. Death

If a detainee dies while in transit, assigned transportation staff shall notify the originating or

receiving office as soon as possible and shall follow procedures specified in standard “4.7 Terminal Illness, Advance Directives and Death.”

The closest ICE/ERO office shall coordinate with other agencies, including the coroner, required to be on the scene when the body is removed from the vehicle. The removal must take place in the state where death occurred. Standard “4.7 Terminal Illness, Advance Directives and Death.” specifies the procedures with which assigned transportation staff must comply.

6. Fire

In case of fire in or on the vehicle, the driver shall immediately stop the vehicle. The crew shall fight the fire with the on-board equipment. If necessary, assigned transportation staff shall request assistance from the local fire department and law enforcement agency. If the fire forces evacuation of the bus, the crew is responsible for maintaining accountability and security while removing detainees in an orderly fashion.

7. Riots

If a riot, fight, or any disturbance occurs on the bus, the assistant driver shall order the detainees to cease and the driver shall attempt to move the bus to the side of the road. If necessary, the crew shall request assistance from the local law enforcement agency. Efforts shall be made to determine the instigators, number of detainees involved, names and A-numbers.

When sufficient assistance is available, the assigned transportation staff shall attempt to regain control, using only as much force (e.g., with restraints or pepper spray) as necessary. Assigned transportation staff may not enter the screened area bearing arms.

8. Traffic Accident

The facility administrator shall establish written

procedures for vehicle crews involved in traffic accidents.

After an accident, assigned transportation staff shall secure the area, request assistance from a local law enforcement agency, and obtain medical assistance for anyone injured. Regardless of the severity of the accident, the assigned transportation staff must report the accident to the local law enforcement agency and the nearest ICE/ERO office. They must also obtain a police report for the record, in case of future allegations or lawsuits against ICE/ERO or individual officers. The driver must record witnesses’ names, addresses, and phone numbers on Form SF-94.

The assigned transportation staff shall discuss the issue of responsibility for the accident only with their chain of command. Upon arriving at the receiving office, the assigned transportation staff shall report the accident to the Field Office Director, or designee and prepare the required forms.

9. Vehicle Failure

The facility administrator shall develop written procedures for assigned transportation staff to follow when the vehicle develops mechanical problems en route.

Crew in an ICE/ERO-owned vehicle that develops mechanical problems en route shall attempt to isolate the problem, and shall then contact the nearest ICE/ERO office. Unless the vehicle constitutes a traffic hazard in its current location, the crew shall not move it until instructed to do so. If the assigned transportation staff fail to connect with the ICE/ERO office, they shall try to reach a local law enforcement agency.

10. Natural Disasters

The facility administrator shall develop written procedures for transportation officers to follow in the event of severe weather or a natural disaster.

In a flood, dust storm, ice storm, tornado or other natural disaster, the vehicle crew shall contact state authorities to assess road conditions along the planned route.

If driving conditions are unlikely to improve, the vehicle crew shall look for a safe area to park the vehicle and request further instructions from the receiving office.

Should it become necessary to exit the vehicle, the detainees must be directed to a safe area. In such a case, officers must maintain a heightened alertness for the duration of the emergency. When the emergency has passed, the assigned transportation staff shall return all detainees to the vehicle and conduct an accurate count.

T. Transportation of Females and Minors

The facility administrator shall develop written procedures for vehicle crews transporting females.

Except for emergent or extraordinary circumstances as approved by the Field Office Director(s), females may not be transported by bus for more than ten hours. Otherwise, transportation by auto or van is

required, with frequent breaks.

Females shall be seated in the front of the vehicle.

Minors shall be separated from unrelated adults at all times during transport and seated in an area of the vehicle near officers and under their close supervision.

Assigned transportation staff shall search a detainee of the opposite sex only in extraordinary circumstances and only when a same-sex officer is not available.

When transporting detainees of the opposite gender, assigned transportation staff shall call in their time of departure and odometer reading; and then do so again upon arrival, to account for their time.

Except in emergency situations, a single transportation staff member may not transport a single detainee of the opposite gender. Further, if there is an expectation that a pat down will occur during transport, an assigned transportation staff member of the same gender as the detainee(s) must be present.