

Hamden Police Department General Orders

Policy Number: 024-016

Effective Date: August 1, 2005

Section: Patrol

Rescinds:

Title: Intoxicated or Incapacitated
Individuals.

Approved By:

Approval Date:

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for the handling of incapacitated or intoxicated individuals by members of the Hamden Police Department.

POLICY

Member Officers will offer assistance or take into protective custody, where appropriate, individuals determined to be intoxicated or incapacitated in accordance with the procedures in the General Order and the applicable Connecticut General Statutes.

Definitions

1. Intoxicated person - a person whose mental or physical functioning is substantially impaired as a result of the use of alcohol/narcotics.
2. Incapacitated - means a condition in which a person, as a result of the use of alcohol/narcotics, is unconscious or has his/her judgment otherwise so impaired that he/she is incapable of realizing and making a rational decision with respect to his/her need for treatment.

CGS - Sec. 17a-683

Procedures

- A. Intoxicated Persons- Upon determining a person to be intoxicated, the officer will:
 1. Offer to make arrangements through family, friends, or the taxi service to provide transportation to the person's home or to a medical facility.
 2. Terminate his/her direct involvement if the person refuses help, since the officer does not have the right to force help upon the person.

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- B. Incapacitated Person- Upon determining a person to be incapacitated, the officer, in accordance with C.G.S. Sec. 17- 683(b):
1. Will take the person into protective custody and have the person transported to a New Haven hospital by ambulance:
 - a. The taking into protective custody shall not be considered an arrest. No record shall be made to indicate that the person has been arrested or charged with a crime.
 2. May take reasonable steps to protect himself, the incapacitated person and the general public. These steps may include:
 - a. Restraining the person but only to the extent necessary to protect the person, the officer and the public, using only that amount of force necessary to affect the restraint.
 - b. Conducting a pat down search of the individual for weapons and/or items that would constitute an obvious threat to the safety of the individual, the officer or the public.
 - i. Items taken from the person will be turned over to the Emergency Room staff via ambulance personnel.