# MESQUITE POLICE DEPARTMENT



### 240.00 LARGE-SCALE ARREST PROCEDURES

**Effective Date: March, 2013** 

Approved: Chief of Police

## I. Policy Statement

Protests, demonstrations, or riots utilizing active or passive resistance against arrest can pose a substantial challenge for a police department. Officers on the scene must balance the need to maintain order with the constitutional rights of all persons involved. In addition, making a large number of arrests requires mobilization of additional resources, interagency cooperation and procedural flexibility in order to expedite the process of identifying, transporting, and booking in prisoners. In all cases, officers must select the appropriate control techniques based on the circumstances.

### II. Definitions

Large-scale arrest: The simultaneous arrest of large numbers of persons, usually due to demonstrations, protests and riots, that require personnel and resources beyond the capacity of the normal officer complement.

### III. Procedure

- A. The first officer on scene will request the presence of a supervisor and make an initial assessment of the support required.
- B. Dispatch will notify the Watch Commander, the Station Sergeant, and with Watch Commander approval, notify surrounding agencies of the event. The Station Sergeant may summon additional detention officers to assist with jail operations.
- C. The Watch Commander may request additional officers from other law enforcement agencies if determined necessary to maintain order. The Fire Department may be asked to stage ambulances nearby if necessary for medical evaluation and treatment of injured persons.
- D. The Watch Commander will order large-scale arrests of violators when sufficient officers are on scene to safely take violators into custody. In the case of violent demonstrations, officers may immediately implement large-scale arrest procedures to preserve the peace and protect themselves and innocent bystanders.
- E. On scene police personnel will be divided into two groups:
  - 1. One group will make arrests and identify the arrestees.
  - 2. The second group will transport prisoners to the jail and begin book-in procedures. Officers from other agencies who arrive to assist will be assigned to the transport group.
- F. Arrested persons will be identified at the scene in one of two ways:
  - 1. Officers will take a photograph of the arrestee. A CSS photo placard with the subject's name, arresting officer's badge number and charges will be held under the arrestee's chin. Images will be taken to the jail personnel for documentation.
  - 2. Marker: Officers may use markers to write the subject's name, arresting officer's badge number, and charges on the inside of the subject's forearm.
- G. Jail holdover cells (#1032 and #1033) will be used to hold prisoners until they can be processed. Multi-hold cells on both the male and female sides may also be utilized. If the number of prisoners exceeds the capacity of these cells, the Station Sergeant will arrange for the transfer of prisoners to the Dallas County Jail for all charges Class B and above.
- H. All other departmental policies will be followed in the handling of prisoners.

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