

PCTC

Library Links



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
**Department of Public Safety and
Correctional Services**
Stephen T. Moyer, Secretary
**Police and Correctional Training
Commissions**
William J. McMahon, Acting Executive Director

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“Books may not change our suffering, books may not protect us from evil, books may not tell us what is good or what is beautiful, and they will certainly not shield us from the common fate of the grave. But books grant us myriad possibilities: the possibility of change, the possibility of illumination.”

~ Alberto Manguel

(Retrieved from <http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/books?page=13>,
June 28, 2016)

What’s New in the Library?

One of the recent additions to our collection is the document that resulted from the efforts of the Public Safety and Policing Workgroup. The Report and Recommendations was published in January 2016 and included the twenty-three (23) recommendations that were presented. (**REPORT 751**, #3304)

Keywords: *Police—Maryland; Criminal justice, Administration of—United States—Maryland*

Humble Leadership and the Police Service—Robert Smith, from The Scottish Institute for Policing Research (**REPORT #752**, #3313)

Keywords: *Leadership; Leadership—Psychological aspects*

Leisure Time

There never seems to be enough of it, and we’re always looking for ways to add more into our busy lives. To help you save time and enjoy your leisure, our **Fun Reading** section is available to all staff. Through anonymous donations, it continues to grow and offer a way to borrow a book for leisure reading without having to make a stop after work. In addition, through the generosity of Harry Hagedorn, we also have available a growing assortment of DVDs for your viewing pleasure.

Come by the library and browse to find something to read or watch!

How Did We Get Here?

The Public Safety Education and Training Center (PSETC) has been at Springfield Hospital Center for over ten years. But how many of us who work in this building know the background of how we arrived here?

The intention to build a police and correctional training center originated back in the 1980s. Through the hard work of many, many people (legislators, planners, those in charge of public safety training, and other visionaries), we made it to Springfield. However, several years divided the budding intention and the realization of that dream.

A variety of materials that includes newspaper articles, photographs, reports, and other documents was turned over to the library some time ago, and I've recently begun to review and organize these materials.

The end result will be an organized, catalogued, and appropriately-stored collection that tells the story of the PSETC and how we came to be at Springfield. You'll hear more about as time goes on.

The following posting appeared on the DOJ OJP Diagnostic Center web page and is being reprinted here. You may recognize the author.

Managing an Individual in Custody in a Hospital Setting

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Correctional Services, Maryland Police and
Correctional Training Commissions
June 13, 2016*

The hospital setting is a foreign environment for correctional officers (CO). Each year law enforcement and hospital employees suffer injury when individuals attempt to escape from a hospital setting; many of these incidents are preventable. Eliminating unknowns through written protocols, specialized training, facility familiarization and additional communication can increase public safety and decrease a CO's vulnerability when guarding an individual in custody in a hospital.

Indicators of potential attack often precede attempted or successful hospital escapes. Knowing the signs — which can occur throughout the process — are crucial to maintaining a safe and secure environment for the CO, the individual in custody and the public. Signs may include the person in custody having a previous history of assault and battery on a law enforcement officer, serving a significantly long prison sentence, self-inflicted injury or making multiple trips to the infirmary, making allegations of sexual assault/pregnancy, feigning paralysis or chest pain, asking the CO probing questions, requesting bathroom visits and engaging the CO in personal conversation.

Written protocols agreed to by both the CO and hospital staff prior to a person in custody visiting a hospital alleviate guesswork. COs should familiarize themselves with hospital policy, including hospital identification, use of portable toilets or bed pans for persons in custody, location of officer(s) in the operating room during surgery and staff protocol for a combative patient.

COs should also receive specialized training for handling individuals in custody outside secure facilities, such as inside a hospital. This training should include three critical areas — defensive tactics, restraints and weapons disarmament/retention — and should mirror the number of officers being sent to the hospital in a real-life situation. For example, many agencies send two officers to the hospital when transporting an individual but conduct weapons retention training with a single officer and single person in custody and teach one-on-one scenarios with a single officer and an aggressor. Training on how to react when an individual in custody goes after a partner's gun improves a CO's response in a real-world situation.

Restraints training familiarizes COs with the various types of gurneys in a hospital setting and the proper placement of restraints. Such familiarization helps a CO avoid securing an individual in custody to weak points on a gurney. Agency policy often states a person in custody should be restrained to a gurney; without proper training, there is an increased risk of escape.

Weapons disarmament training teaches COs how to take back their weapon should a person in custody gain possession of it. This training can be critical in saving COs' own lives as well as the lives of others inside the hospital facility.

Facility familiarization, including being familiar with danger zones, such as stairwells, elevators and bathrooms, can significantly increase a CO's ability to effectively guard an individual in custody in a hospital setting. Proper chair placement when guarding someone in custody — near the door and not fully inside the room — can be critical for safety should the identity of a person be unintentionally revealed and allies or enemies find his or her location. In addition, advanced communication between the CO and hospital personnel can decrease miscommunication when a person in custody is at a hospital and improve the likelihood of a safe and secure visit.

The more familiar a CO is with the local hospital and its personnel, the less likely someone will be injured and the more likely the individual in custody will remain in custody during a hospital visit. While hospitals are unfamiliar territory for COs, specialized training and advance preparations can reduce many of the unknowns of managing a person in custody in a hospital setting.

For more information visit <http://www.nicic.gov>(link is external).

Did You Know...

...that our library has a ***Fun Reading*** section (see above) with lots of fiction (e.g., James Patterson, Diane Mott Davidson, David Baldacci, Patricia Cornwell, Faye Kellerman, Jonathan Kellerman, Dean Koontz, John Sandford, etc.)?

...that we have an electronic catalog (the card catalog is LONG gone!)?

...that our books are arranged according to the Dewey Decimal System (but you don't have to have it memorized)?

...that we have books, magazines, and DVDs that users can borrow?

...that we receive the daily Carroll County Times that staff can read in the library?

...that we have atlases of every Maryland county that can be borrowed (for those individuals who prefer maps to GPS technology) and are especially useful for travel?

...that the librarian is here to help users locate books or search for information that is only available through library subscription?

...that you can donate hardback books, especially popular fiction, to boost our ***Fun Reading*** collection for staff and resident students to enjoy (see article above)?

...that there are no fines charged at our library?

...that the library continues to order materials that help to support the work our instructors do in the classroom and that help students who are receiving training here at the PSETC?

...that more people still prefer to read a print book than an electronic one?

...that you can request materials to be ordered to help support your instruction or research that will be housed in the library?

Wishing everyone a happy Fourth of July and a safe and enjoyable weekend!

