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SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WORKING IN OUR NATION'S JAILS

American Jail Association Resolution Breathing Emergencies Connected to Restraint

WHEREAS, Subjects with one or more predisposed or debilitated health conditions have died as a result of being restrained in the hog-tie position, and

WHEREAS, the hog-tie or hobble restraint position is dangerous for individuals with diminished capacity to exert strong respirations or in excitatory states, and

WHEREAS, there are situations requiring immediate control and restraint of agitated or aggressive individuals who do not allow for screening of pre-existing medical conditions or risk factors, and

WHEREAS, individuals exhibiting such behavior are more likely to be under the influence of alcohol, or other drugs, and

WHEREAS, subjects who have these interactions with custody staff, either during or after an encounter, may, on infrequent occasions, experience a breathing emergency.

**THEREFORE BE
IT RESOLVED
THAT,**

The hog-tie or hobble position should be considered an unsafe practice and should be avoided.

Due diligence should be used when determining the arrestee's position, no matter how the individual is restrained.

In cases where force and restraints have been used, monitoring of respirations, circulation, and consciousness are important.

Staff should be trained to identify breathing difficulties and medical emergencies in addition to cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and the use automated electronic defibrillator equipment.

*Adopted by the American Jail Association Board of Directors on Saturday, April 21, 2001.
Re-affirmed May 3, 2008, by the AJA Board of Directors in Sacramento, California.
Replaced "Restraint Asphyxia" by the AJA Board of Directors on November 17, 2016.*