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SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WORKING IN OUR NATION'S JAILS

## American Jail Association Resolution Practice of Strip Searches

**WHEREAS,** detention facilities have the obligation to provide a safe and secure environment for their inmates, and

**WHEREAS,** a strip search is any search that includes the viewing of a naked or partially clad body, and and

**WHEREAS,** the use of strip searches to prevent the introduction of contraband into the jail general population, identify gang affiliations of incoming arrestees by observing tattoos and other body markings, and prevent the spread of disease and identify injuries, has been validated by the United States Supreme Court;

**THEREFORE BE  
IT RESOLVED  
THAT**

the American Jail Association endorses the creation of policy and procedure in local jails that ensures that strip searches are:

- Done in the least intrusive and professional fashion.
- Gender specific ( male observing male, female observing female).
- Never done in a group setting.
- Not performed on new arrests who have not yet entered into "general population" unless sufficient cause exists to require an earlier search in accordance with State and Federal law.

**BE IT FURTHER  
RESOLVED  
THAT**

the American Jail Association encourages all local jails to develop policy, procedures and training for the appropriate and constitutionally sound strip search of transsexual, transgender and intersex arrestees.

*Adopted by the American Jail Association Board of Directors on April 26, 2013.*