




**Maryland-National Capital Park Police  
Prince George's County Division**



**DIVISION DIRECTIVE**

TITLE <b>ARRESTEES ACCOMPANIED BY MINOR CHILDREN</b>			PROCEDURE NUMBER <b>PG1008.0</b>
SECTION Arrested Persons and Prisoners	DISTRIBUTION <b>A</b>	EFFECTIVE DATE <b>07/01/17</b>	REVIEW DATE <b>05/01/21</b>
REPLACES <b>PG1008.0 "Arrestees Accompanied By Minor Children", issued 10/15/04</b>			
RELATED DIRECTIVES <b>PG1000.0, PG1010.0</b>	REFERENCES <b>CALEA 44</b>	AUTHORITY  <b>Chief Stanley R. Johnson</b>	

**I. PURPOSE**

This directive establishes procedures for the control of minor children in the company of persons arrested by officers of the Division.

**II. POLICY**

It must be recognized by all officers of this Division that any time a person is arrested, regardless of the offense, and that person is accompanied by a minor child, the arresting officer becomes the person primarily responsible for the safety and well-being of the child.

**III. PROCEDURES**

A. Officers will, when appropriate, attempt to locate a person to take custody of a minor child in the company of an arrestee prior to transporting either from the scene of the arrest. Persons accepting custody of the minor child will meet at least one of the criteria listed below.

1. An "Authorization for Release of Minor Child" form (appendix 'A') will be completed prior to the release of a child to anyone other than the arrestee. Children may only be released to the following:

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- a. A parent or legal guardian of the child after proof of identity has been verified.
  - b. Person or persons designated by the arrestee.
  - c. An authorized representative of the Juvenile Services Administration.
  - d. An authorized representative of the Prince George's County Protective Services.
  - e. A representative of another law enforcement agency when he/she assumes custody of the arrestee and the child.
- B. Central Processing Unit (CPU) prohibits minor children from accompanying arrestees. Minor children who accompany arrested persons, will be separated from the arrestee prior to being transported to CPU, or as deemed necessary by the arresting officer.
- C. Operations Duty Officers/Shift Supervisors will be notified of any arrest where an arrestee is accompanied by a minor child. Operations Duty Officers/Shift Supervisors will assign an employee to supervise minor children in the Division's care.
1. This employee will be responsible for the safety and well-being of the child and will locate a responsible person to accept custody of the child (see list below).
  2. Employees assigned to supervise children will attend to the needs of the child to the extent necessary to ensure the safety and comfort of the child.
  3. A minor child will not be placed in a holding cell unless the child has been charged with the commission of a crime.
- D. Minor children will be transported in accordance with Maryland Code, Transportation Article on "Child Safety Seats."

**End of Document**

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**AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF MINOR CHILD  
ARRESTEES ACCOMPANIED BY MINOR CHILDREN**

The arrestee, \_\_\_\_\_, being the legal parent or guardian of said minor child, \_\_\_\_\_, does hereby release temporary custody of said minor child to \_\_\_\_\_. Said arrestee, \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter releases the Maryland- National Capital Park Police, Prince George's County Division, from any further liability of his/her minor child once the minor child has been placed in the custody of a legal parent, designated guardian, or appropriate county agency.

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Arrestee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrestee's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrestee's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby accept temporary custody of and responsibility for \_\_\_\_\_

a minor child of \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship/Agency Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date and Time of Release:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness:

(Attachment A)