



Tennessee Department of Children's Services
Work Aid- Use of Mechanical Restraint: Monitoring and Documentation Requirements

Supplemental to DCS Policy: 13.4, Use of Mechanical Restraints

Utilize this work aid to ensure that all requirements are met when utilizing mechanical restraints.

Advanced authorization for the use of mechanical restraints	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assess the situation, are mechanical restraints necessary?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Get permission from immediate supervisor, or designee, to use mechanical restraints
<input type="checkbox"/>	A youth should be in restraints only to the degree required and minimum amount of time necessary
Who can be restrained: justification for the use of mechanical restraint-one or more should apply	
<input type="checkbox"/>	New delinquent youth in custody awaiting placement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth poses a runaway risk and/or is threatening to run away.
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is a documented history of running away
<input type="checkbox"/>	There is a documented history of running away
Monitoring during the period of restraint	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The youth will be monitored visually and verbally every 15 minutes to be sure harmful health or psychological reactions are not occurring
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use of restraints for more than 30 minutes, approval of Team Coordinator or designee is required. Restraints should be discontinued as soon as possible
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adjust restraints if youth is verbalizing problems with circulation or undue discomfort
Reporting-Documentation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete an incident report in TFACTS , entering all required fields, refer to DCS Policy 1.4 Incident Reporting .
<input type="checkbox"/>	The incident report narrative must contain documentation of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reason restraints were used and that permission was granted. That the youth was monitored every 15 minutes. That permission was granted for the youth to remain in restraints for longer than 30 minutes by whom and the reason. The youth's need for food, water and use of bathroom facilities was provided as applicable. That the parent/legal guardian was advised that mechanical restraints were used with their child. Were there any injuries, if yes document the details of what happened and why. Was medical treatment necessary, if yes, document the details.