



**Institutional Handbook of Operating Procedures
Policy 08.02.06**

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| Section: Health, Safety and Security | Responsible Vice President: Executive Vice President – UTMB Health System |
| Subject: Security | Responsible Entity: TDCJ Security |

I. Title
Hostage Policy Involving Offender/Correctional Patients

II. Policy
No on duty officer, employee, or student will disregard, alter, modify, or change in any manner the present duties, obligations or responsibilities in their position on demand by the prisoners, or plea from the hostages, regardless of consequences. This policy is in accordance with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) Hostage Policy.

Negotiations may occur during a hostage situation but the individual(s) taking the hostage(s) will not be released nor will the hostage(s) be recognized for bargaining purposes.

All activities throughout the hostage situation will be coordinated by the TDCJ official in charge.

III. Specific Guidelines for Situations Involving TDCJ Offenders
Individuals observing a hostage situation outside of the TDCJ Hospital will contact the appropriate agency as listed below. For hostage situations occurring within the TDCJ Hospital, call TDCJ dispatch at extension 26108 and UTMB Police at extension 21111.

| If the hostage situation involves a patient under the custody of the... | Then call... |
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| Texas Dept. of Criminal Justice | TDCJ, ext. 26108 and University Policy at ext. 21111. |
| Texas Youth Commission | University Police, ext. 21111. |
| Federal Bureau of Prisons | University Police, ext. 21111. |
| Local Law Enforcement Agency | University Police, ext. 21111. |
| State Law Enforcement Agency | University Police, ext. 21111. |

IV. Assistance
External agencies may be asked to assist in the hostage situation, upon request of the officials in charge. External agencies may include: Texas Department of Public Safety, Galveston County Sheriff's Department, Galveston Police Department, and the Texas Rangers.

V. Related UTMB Policies and Procedures
[IHOP - 08.02.07 - Security Associated with Offender Correctional Patients](#)

VI. Dates Approved or Amended

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| <i>Originated: 08/15/1993</i> | |
| <i>Reviewed with Changes</i> | <i>Reviewed without Changes</i> |
| 05/12/2011 | 07/14/2016 |
| | 09/06/2019 |

VII. Contact Information

UTMB Police Department
(409) 772-1503