



<b>University of Pennsylvania Police Department</b> 4040 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa 19104		 
<b>Directive:</b> 93	<b>Subject:</b> Interview Rooms	<b>Effective Date:</b> 01/05/2007
<b>Order of:</b> Gary Williams, Chief of Police		<b>Amended Date:</b> 08/01/2023

### I. Purpose

This directive will serve as a guideline to officers and detectives of the University of Pennsylvania Police Department (UPPD) who may be required to interview subjects transported to the UPPD.

### II. Policy

It shall be the policy of the UPPD to utilize Room 155 located within the temporary detention area as the department's designated interrogation room. The primary purpose of this room shall be for the interrogation of suspects and/or criminal offenders who may provide an additional security risk; or where an interview could potentially become an interrogation. Interviews of complainants and witnesses who are not a security risk; or where there is no likelihood that the individual will be interrogated may be conducted within Room 161 inside of the Detective's squad room. Should an apparently cooperative suspect being interviewed within Room 161 become combative, UPPD personnel conducting the interview/interrogation will escort the individual to the more secure Room 155.

### III. Scope

This directive shall affect all sworn employees.

### IV. Procedures

#### A. Weapons Control

1. Officers will ensure that no one being interrogated in Room 155 is in possession of a weapon of any kind.

#### B. Security Concerns

1. There will always be a minimum of two (2) UPPD sworn personnel in the interrogation room when a suspect and/or criminal offender is being interrogated. At no time will a sworn member of this department be alone in Room 155 with a suspect or a criminal offender.

C. Equipment Within the Room

1. A functioning desk top computer, two (2) chairs, a desk and a bench with a cuffing rail shall be kept within Room 155 at all times.

D. Access to Restrooms, Water or Comfort Breaks

1. Upon request, all persons being interrogated in Room 155 will be allowed access to the restroom facility and drinking water. The following restrictions shall apply:
  - a. Prior to using the restroom facility, the interviewing officers shall remove any obvious items that may be used as a weapon.
  - b. Circumstances may dictate that same gender officers accompany the individual into the restroom facility if the officer feels as though the person's safety cannot be reasonably guaranteed.
  - c. Officers shall remain directly outside the restroom until the individual has relieved himself/ herself.
  - d. The officer shall search the restroom for any weapons, contraband, etc., that may have been left behind after the individual has relieved himself/herself.

E. Compliance

Violations of this directive, or portions thereof, may result in disciplinary action.

F. Officers Assigned to Other Agencies

Officers of this department assigned to or assisting other law enforcement agencies will be guided by this directive.

G. Application

This directive constitutes department policy, and is not intended to enlarge the employer's or employee's civil or criminal liability in any way. It shall not be construed as the creation of a higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims insofar as the employer's or employee's legal duty as imposed by law. Violations of policy will only form the basis for departmental administrative sanctions. Violations of law will form the basis for civil and criminal sanctions in a recognized judicial setting.