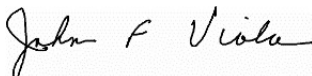




# HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

<b>Subject:</b> 2.5.9 Handling of Impaired Persons		<b>Number of Pages:</b> 2
<b>Issue Date:</b> May 2026	<b>Expiration Date:</b> Until Amended or Rescinded	<b>Distribution List:</b> All Sworn Personnel
<b>PLEAC Standard:</b>		
<b>Authorized By:</b> Chief John F. Viola		<b>Signature:</b> 

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidance for members of Haverford Township Police Department in dealing with persons manifestly under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance to the degree that they may endanger themselves or others. This directive along with Directives 2.5.1 Prisoner Transport, 3.1.1 Cells and Temporary Holding Areas, 3.1.9 Detainee Intake Release, and Medical Care, 4.7.1 Handling and Custodial Care of Juveniles and 4.4.1 Processing – Fingerprinting and Photographs cover all aspects of Detainee interaction with this department.

### POLICY

It is the policy of this department to adhere to the provisions of this directive.

### DEFINITION

**Impairment** -A person who appears in any public place manifestly under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance to the degree that he or she may endanger himself or others shall be considered impaired

### PROCEDURE

- A. Any officer who encounters an individual who exhibits signs of impairment shall treat the individual with the highest degree of professionalism and care. The officer shall be responsible for the care of that individual until proper and safe custody can be transferred.

1. If the individual appears to be impaired, the officer shall ensure one of the following steps is taken:
  - a. Arrest, take custody of, and transport the individual to police headquarters and place in a cell. All other policies and procedures related to detainment shall be observed.
  - b. In the event the individual is not placed under arrest, Attempt to contact a family member, friend, or acquaintance of the individual and ask them to respond and pick up the individual within a reasonable amount of time.
  - c. If the individual is impaired to the degree that they require medical assistance, medical personnel should be requested and dispatched to evaluate and/or treat the individual.
    1. If the individual accepts treatment and is transported to a medical facility, the officer need not accompany medical personnel unless requested or the behavior of the individual warrants it.
    2. If the individual declines or refuses treatment, under no circumstances should the impaired individual be left alone to care for themselves without medical clearance.

**BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE**