

**POLICY
811**

**EFFECTIVE
DATE
7-15-14**

Eugene Police Department



Spit Hoods

811.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Due to health risks, the use of department-issued spit hoods are approved for use on persons when they exhibit spitting behavior, or threaten or attempt to spit.

811.2 SPIT HOOD GUIDELINES

Any subject who demonstrates spitting behavior, or who threatens or attempts to spit on someone, should have a department-issued spit hood placed over their head and face. A department-issued spit hood will be stocked in glove box consoles of patrol cars and is of a mesh fabric design so as not to impede breathing or sight.

When applying a spit hood, officers should take the necessary steps to control the head of the subject to prevent, or direct away from the officer or others, the subject's saliva. When practicable, wear protective gloves when applying and removing a spit hood.

Ensure that the see-through mesh portion of the spit hood is in a position to allow the subject nasal breathing and sight afforded by the mesh. The spit hood may be left on as long as the officer reasonably believes that the subject remains a spitting hazard.

Although it does not preclude or prevent the use of a spit hood, extra monitoring should be provided to persons who are mentally unstable, elderly or very young, extremely intoxicated, have excessive bleeding from the face or head, or those who have recently been sprayed with Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol.

811.3. REPORTING SPITTING BEHAVIOR OF SUBJECTS

When lodging a suspect at the jail who has exhibited spitting behaviors, attempted or threatened to spit, and has been fitted with a spit hood and it has been removed prior to the book in process, notify the booking deputy of the suspect's spitting behavior.

If a subject spits, ensure that a caution indicator is included in your report for adequate officer safety notification during future contacts. If a person is fitted with a spit hood because of spitting or attempting or threatening to spit, officers will include that in the report narrative.