



# City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

## Office of the City Manager

409 South Main Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802  
(540) 432-7701 / FAX (540) 432-7778

Kurt D. Hodgen  
City Manager

TO: Kurt Hodgen, City Manager  
FROM: Chief Stephen Monticelli  
DATE: December 12, 2016  
RE: Physical Restraints

### **Summary:**

The Harrisonburg Police Department often deals with community members that are in crisis. During these high stress and high impact times, the offenders need to be safely restrained to minimize the likelihood of injury to them and/or to the officers. The Harrisonburg Police Department has researched the most effective and safe manner to restrain a violently resisting offender and chose the Safe Restraint "WRAP System".

### **Background:**

The antiquated way of restraining an offender is to handcuff them behind their back and bound their feet. This position is fairly safe for the officers but causes undue stress to the offender by placing them in a position that could restrict their ability to breath. The WRAP is a restraint system that is quick to apply and safe for all parties. The WRAP system places the offender in an upright seated position that renders them immobile but does not create a threat of positional asphyxiation. The WRAP is designed with bright yellow material and delivers a visual message of safety to the public.

### **Key Issues:**

1. Primary Objective/Benefits:  
Stop the conflict quickly. Control subject comfortably in an upright/seated position.  
Administer medical care quickly. Safely transport subject. Protect both Law Enforcement and Citizens. Reduce risk of injury, death, escalation of force and rapidly achieve de-escalation.
2. Subjects calm down quickly and are COMFORTABLY/HUMANELY controlled. Use of force/conflict time is reduced down to 2-3 minutes with The WRAP.
3. Risk Management/Insurance companies support The WRAP and in many areas have paid for the product because of the lives, injuries and lawsuits saved.
4. We have been serving Law Enforcement, Corrections, Juvenile Detention, Psychiatric Hospitals, Schools among others since 1996.



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5. The WRAP has not had a documented death or injury (Caused by The WRAP) nor had a lawsuit in our 20 year history. Fast, safe and secure for everyone.
6. The Institute for the Prevention of In-Custody Deaths ([www.ipicd.com](http://www.ipicd.com)) performed a study on The WRAP and found it to be safe and effective. Copies of this study can be found on the IPICD website

**Environmental Impact:** None

**Fiscal Impact:** The cost of the WRAP Devices will be covered utilizing forfeiture funds.

**Prior Actions:** None

**Alternatives:** (a) Approve the request for the devices  
(b); or  
(c) Do not adopt at this time

**Community Engagement:**

**Recommendation:** I recommend the approval of this request to allow the agency to purchase four units that will be utilized by the MCIT Group and all members of the Patrol Division will be cross trained in the use of the equipment. By request a demonstration of the system could be performed.

**Attachments:**

- 1) The WRAP Safety Restraint Price Quote
- 2) Recommendation of the WRAP Restraint System by Doctor Frank Sheridan, M.D.
- 3) Letters of Recommendations on WRAP System from other user agencies
  - a. City of Sedalia Police Department
  - b. Walnut Creek Police Officers' Association
  - c. Shawnee County Department of Corrections
- 4) WRAP Website, "<http://www.saferestrains.com/>"

**Review:**

*The initiating Department Director will place in Legistar, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.*

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