



San Francisco Sheriff's Office

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

October 17, 2025
Reference: US 2025-115

To: All Employees

From: Katherine Johnson, #2
Undersheriff

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "KJ", is written over the name "Katherine Johnson".

RE: **STRIP SEARCH POLICY - UPDATE**

I write to advise of the issuance of the updated Search policy and outline the substantive changes. This policy takes effect Monday, October 20, 2025.

Only the current offense may be used to determine strip eligibility for persons charged with misdemeanor offenses at the time of booking. Criminal history may no longer be used to determine strip eligibility for persons only charged with misdemeanor crimes.

Additionally, the policy updates establish a standardized procedure for conducting searches on inmates following contact visits outside of the housing areas in our jail facilities. This is to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of all inmates, staff, and visitors within our jails.

Following a contact **legal** visit, an inmate may be taken through the body scanner in lieu of a strip search. Contact legal visits include visits with any member of the legal team including, but not limited to, attorneys, investigators, paralegals, or expert witnesses. Use of the body scanner following contact legal visits will help with efficiency, while also focusing on jail security. County Jail #2 does not have immediate access to a body scanner, so the inmates shall be escorted to the Intake and Release Center to be scanned. This permissible option does not limit the ability of sworn staff to strip search an inmate following any contact visit as otherwise permitted in the Search policy.

As always, strip searches shall be conducted in a private area, specifically designated for such procedures, to ensure the inmate's dignity.

For specific information regarding the updates to this policy, refer to the policy itself. Staff will receive notification requiring an acknowledgement of this policy.