

February 13, 2025

Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

Senator Ron Latz, Chair
3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Senator Warren Limmer, Minority Lead
2221 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

House Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy Division Committee

Representative Paul Novotny, Chair
2nd Floor, Centennial Office Bldg.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Representative Kelly Moller, Minority Lead
5th Floor, Centennial Office Bldg.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Subject: Annual Report on Pregnant Female Restraint Reporting as Required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 241.88, Subdivision 3

Dear Legislators:

Minnesota Statutes, section 241.88, subdivision 3, requires that by February 15 of each year the Department of Corrections must submit a report to the legislature on the use of restraints by state and local correctional facilities on women who are pregnant, in labor, or who have given birth in the preceding three days. The use of handcuffs on the front of the body of a pregnant woman is not considered a reportable use of restraints.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Kelly Haff, Acting Legislative Director at 651-392-7602.

Sincerely,



Paul Schnell
Commissioner

Cc: Legislative Reference Library

Pregnancy & Restraints in Correctional Facilities 2024 Legislative Report



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February 2025

The total cost of salaries, printing, and supplies incurred in the development and preparation of this report was approximately \$xx,xxx (reported as required by Minn. Stat. §3.197).

This report can be provided in another format upon request.

2024 LEGISLATIVE REPORT ON PREGNANCY & RESTRAINTS IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

I. Background

Minnesota Statutes, section [241.88, subdivision 3](#), requires that by February 15 of each year the Department of Corrections must submit a report to the legislature on the use of restraints by state and local correctional facilities on women who are pregnant, in labor, or who have given birth in the preceding three days.

Minn. Stat. § 241.88, subd. 1 limits the use of restraints in certain circumstances, requiring that if used, they be the least restrictive available and most reasonable under the circumstances. It also prohibits use of restraints in certain circumstances, particularly if the person is in labor or has given birth within the preceding three days, unless:

“(1) there is a substantial flight risk or some other extraordinary medical or security circumstance that dictates restraints be used to ensure the safety and security of the woman, the staff of the correctional or medical facility, other inmates, or the public;

(2) the representative has made an individualized determination that restraints are necessary to prevent escape or injury;

(3) there is no objection from the treating medical care provider; and

(4) the restraints used are the least restrictive type and are used in the least restrictive manner.”

DOC collects information from state and local correctional facilities and includes all reportable uses of restraints on pregnant women, women in labor, and women who have given birth in the preceding three days from the previous calendar year in an annual report to the legislature.

The use of handcuffs on the front of the body of a pregnant person is not considered a reportable use of restraints.

II. Minnesota State Correctional Facilities

In 2024, there was one reportable use of restraints on a person who gave birth in the preceding three days in state correctional facilities.

- 10/01/2024 – An incarcerated female was placed in one soft leg restraint at the hospital one day post-delivery.

III. Licensed County Jail Facilities

Data for licensed county jails is compiled by the DOC Inspection and Enforcement Unit and is attached to this report as Appendix A.



Minnesota Department of Corrections
Inspection and Enforcement Unit
Pregnant Female Restraint Reporting for County Jails
Year: 2024
Order By: Facility Name

Facility	Facility Total	Comments
Aitkin County Jail		
Anoka County Jail	1	01/14/2024 - Pregnant female restrained.
Anoka County Workhouse		
Becker County Jail		
Beltrami County Jail		
Benton County Jail		
Blue Earth County Jail		
Brown County Jail		
Carlton County Jail		
Carver County Jail		
Cass County Jail		
Chippewa County Jail		
Chisago County Jail		
Clay County Jail		
Clearwater County Jail		
Cook County Jail		
Cottonwood County Jail		
Crow Wing County Jail		
Dakota County Jail		
Douglas County Jail		
Faribault County Jail		
Fillmore County Jail		
Freeborn County Jail		
Goodhue County Jail		
Hennepin County ACF - Men		
Hennepin County ACF - North		
Hennepin County ADC		
Houston County Jail		
Hubbard County Jail		
Isanti County Jail		
Itasca County Jail		
Jackson County Jail		
Kanabec County Jail		
Kandiyohi County Jail		
Kittson County Jail		

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Incident Pregnant Restraint Reporting for County Jails

Facility	Facility Total	Comments
Koochiching County Jail		
Lac qui Parle County Jail		
Lake County Jail		
Lake Of The Woods County Jail		
Le Sueur County Jail		
Lincoln County Jail		
Lyon County Jail		
Martin County Jail		
McLeod County Jail		
Meeker County Jail		
Mille Lacs County Jail		
Morrison County Jail		
Mower County Jail		
Murray County Jail		
Nicollet County Jail		
Nobles County Jail		
Northeast Regional Corrections Center (ACF)		
Northwest Regional Corrections Center		
Olmsted County Jail		
Otter Tail County Jail		
Pennington County Jail		
Pine County Detention Center		
Pipestone County Jail		
Ramsey County ACF		
Ramsey County ADC		
Redwood County Jail		
Renville County Jail		
Rice County Jail		
Roseau County Jail		
Scott County Jail		
Sherburne County Jail		
Sibley County Jail		
St. Louis County Jail		
St. Louis County Jail - Hibbing		
St. Louis County Jail - Virginia		
Stearns County Jail	1	02/16/2024 - Pregnant restraints used on female.
Steele County Jail		
Swift County Jail		
Todd County Jail		
Traverse County Jail		
Wabasha County Jail		

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Incident Pregnant Restraint Reporting for County Jails

Facility	Facility Total	Comments
Wadena County Jail		
Waseca County Jail		
Washington County Jail		
Watsonwan County Jail		
Wilkin County Jail		
Winona County Jail		
Wright County Jail		
Yellow Medicine County Jail		
Grand Total	2	Source: DOC Portal Reports