

MENTAL HEALTH/CRISIS SERVICES

AUTHORITY

Title 15 Regulation:

Section 1437 Mental Health Services and Transfer to a Treatment Facility

Related JDF Procedures:

- G1 Rights of Youth in Custody/Orientation
- G6 Transportation of Youth
- G11 Use of Physical and Mechanical Restraint
- H5 Release of Youth

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental health services are provided in each Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) for any youth in need. A Mental Health Clinician is assigned to the JDF to provide services. The Probation Department also contracts with community based organizations at both facilities to augment these services through individual and group counseling sessions. New Morning Youth and Family Services provide services at Juvenile Hall (JH), while Tahoe Youth and Family Services provide services at the Juvenile Treatment Center (JTC).

Any youth expressing a desire to speak with Mental Health, and it is not deemed an emergency by the Deputy Probation Officer – Institutions (DPO (I)) or shift supervisor, shall be referred to the Mental Health Clinician. The officer will complete the top portion of the Mental Health Referral form (#563N), and place the form in the designated area. The Mental Health Clinician will contact the youth on their next shift.

MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS SERVICES

When a youth is exhibiting behavior indicative of a mental health crisis, the on duty Mental Health Clinician must decide if the youth is in need of emergency services. The Mental Health Clinician and shift supervisor will discuss the necessity or options for emergency services. Transportation arrangements will be made by the shift supervisor, if found to be necessary.

If a youth is exhibiting behavior that is indicative of a mental health crisis and no Mental Health Clinician is working at the JDF, then emergency services shall be pursued by the shift supervisor. Mental Health Crisis shall be contacted by the shift supervisor or designee, when in-house Mental Health staff is not available, if any of the following exists:

- A youth is suspected of being a serious suicide candidate.
- A youth's behavior becomes particularly unusual or bizarre.
- A youth becomes so violent he/she must be restrained and is no longer in control of his/her self for a period of 15-20 minutes.
- A youth appears to be in emotional distress and repeatedly requests to speak with a Mental Health Clinician.

If the Mental Health representative confirms the need for inpatient psychiatric treatment, the youth will be transported to the hospital and potential arrangements will be made for transport to

an inpatient facility. If crisis services are unavailable, and officers on duty are unable to maintain the youth's safety, the youth may be transported to the hospital for evaluation.

RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN INPATIENT TREATMENT IS NECESSARY

If arrangements have been made for a youth to receive inpatient psychiatric treatment, the shift supervisor will ensure the following occurs immediately:

- Prepare a JDF Temporary Release Agreement form (#10N) to the contract facility. The youth must sign this form prior to leaving the JDF.
- Prepare a package containing the Consent for Medical Examination and Treatment form (#502), any paperwork completed by the Mental Health Clinician, any other pertinent paperwork, and medications. This will be taken by the transport officer and given to the facility supervisor/manager.
- Contact a transport officer (two if needed) to take the youth and the paperwork to the contract facility. Use full restraints.
- Notify the youth's parent or guardian, with a full explanation of the need for removal from the JDF, and refer them to the Mental Health Clinician or representative.
- Inform the Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent of the situation. If the situation occurs on the weekends or after hours, contact the On-call JDF Manager. The notified Manager will report the information to the Field Services Manager and the Chief Probation Officer.
- Each involved officer shall prepare a detailed Special Incident Report documenting the youth's behavior and all pertinent information, and submit the report to the shift supervisor by the end of their shift.
- The details and times of each contact with the Mental Health Clinician shall be entered in the logbook or in CE, as applicable.

After the youth has been transported to the facility, the day shift Supervisor will make a daily telephone call to the contract facility to check on the status and well-being of the youth and share pertinent information, as appropriate. The phone call shall be entered in the logbook and a Contact entry made in CE.

All future transports of the youth remain the responsibility of the Probation Department.