

DATE:	MAY 21, 2021
NUMBER:	J.4
SUBJECT:	ENHANCED OBSERVATION HOUSING (EOH): DEFINITION AND USE
RELATED SECTIONS:	I.52 , J.1 , J.5 , M.25 , MSD S.10

PURPOSE

To set forth procedures ensuring inmates who meet the criteria as outlined in Detention Services Bureau Policies and Procedures (DSB P&P) section J.5, are housed in Enhanced Observation Housing (EOH) to prevent self-harm and suicides.

POLICY

Inmates who have been determined by the facility gatekeeper to warrant placement in the Inmate Safety Program (ISP) because they present an increased risk for suicide and who do not require placement in a safety cell as outlined in DSB P&P J.1, shall be temporarily housed in EOH for the purpose of receiving closer observation and assessment for permanent housing (refer to DSB P&P J.5). The recommending staff will notify the watch commander of the placement. Inmates in EOH shall be closely monitored and directly observed by sworn staff at random intervals not to exceed 15minutes between checks. Such observations shall be documented in the Jail Information Management System (JIMS).

Inmates in Book and Release (B&R) status will not be placed in EOH. EOH is not to be used for punishment or as a substitute for treatment.

DEFINITION

EOH can be single cells, multiple occupancy modules, or medical isolation for temporary housing. EOH provides close observation and assessment of inmates who may be at an elevated risk for suicide. (Refer to DSB P&P section J.5 for additional definitions).

PROCEDURE

I. PLACEMENT

- A. When placement into EOH is deemed necessary during the intake process, a deputy will remain with the inmate and escort the inmate through the booking process prior to being placed in EOH. The inmate will be given the opportunity to use the telephone per section 851.5 of the Penal Code.
- B. An inmate placed into EOH shall have all their personal clothing, wristband, jewelry and other property removed. Jewelry and body adornments shall be removed in compliance with DSB P&P Q.55. Personal property and clothing taken from an inmate shall be inventoried, placed in a property bag, labeled and retained in the property room. For security purposes, deputies will remain with the inmate during the process to ensure all items listed above are removed.

1. All inmates placed in EOH will be issued a safety garment, two safety blankets, and shower shoes.
 2. A safety garment is the only item of clothing the inmate may possess while in EOH. Shower shoes may be removed if they are used for any purpose other than as footwear. Documentation in an incident report is needed if shower shoes are not given. All safety garments shall be cleaned and disinfected after use. If the inmate is housed in EOH for more than 48 hours, the safety garment will be exchanged for a clean safety garment.
 3. Showers, dayroom, television, and social phone calls will be offered in accordance with Title 15 guidelines.
 4. Hygiene items will be provided as needed by the housing deputy and immediately collected after use.
 5. Access to personal property, recreation yard time or social visits is not permitted.
 6. Access to reading material (books, magazines, newspapers) is permitted. Staff must ensure magazines or other reading material is free of staples or bindings of such nature.
 7. Professional visits and phone calls shall be permitted in accordance with DSB P&P sections N.5 and P.15. Inmates shall be dressed in inmate clothing to attend professional visits (no safety garments).
 8. Inmates housed in EOH with low-risk designation may attend court. Inmates shall be dressed in inmate clothing to attend court (no safety garments). Inmates deemed high risk will not attend court. Notification to the court will be made per DSB P&P section M.44.
- C. EOH is available at Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility, Vista Detention Facility, San Diego Central Jail and George Bailey Detention Facility.
1. Inmates housed at other facilities who are determined to warrant EOH housing shall be transferred to an EOH-enabled facility.
 2. Each EOH-enabled facility will designate and identify an appropriate housing area within the facility for placement of the EOH unit.

II. DOCUMENTATION

A JIMS incident report utilizing "EOH" (enhanced observation housing) as the primary incident type code shall be written for each inmate placed into EOH.

1. The incident report must clearly articulate the reasons for placement in EOH. Depending on the reasons for placement, the following additional incident type codes shall be used.

- a. Based on the facility gatekeeper's assessment, for placement due to homicidal reasons, the additional type code 1 shall be "ZTH" (ISP Type-Homicidal). A recommendation for a single cell, multiple occupancy modules, or medical isolation EOH housing will be made.
 - b. Placement due to self-injury reasons the additional type code 1 shall be "ZTS" (ISP Type-Self-Injury).
 - c. When staff determines the placement was due to either verbal or written communication, the additional type code 2 shall be "ZMV" (ISP Method-Verbal).
 - d. When staff determines the placement was due to active behavior, the additional type code 2 shall be "ZMA" (ISP Method-Active).
2. A JIMS incident report utilizing "EOU" (enhanced observation update) as the primary incident type code shall be documented by sworn staff at least every 24 hours or after each Qualified Mental Health Provider (QMHP) assessment to document the continued need or clearance from ISP housing.

III. TRANSFERS

In the event an inmate is transferred from one facility to another for placement into EOH, the following procedures will be followed:

1. Placement into EOH during the intake process, refer to the aforementioned subsection I.
2. The deputy from the originating facility will articulate in a JIMS incident report the reason for the EOH placement and will transport the inmate to the new facility. The originating facility's watch commander will approve the incident report and contact and brief the watch commander or designee at the receiving facility.
3. Deputies assigned to the receiving facility will assume custody of the inmate at intake/processing and will coordinate with the facility charge nurse to have the inmate medically assessed prior to placement into EOH. A supplemental incident report will be written documenting placement and of the assessment by facility health staff.

IV. MONITORING

- A. Deputies will closely monitor and directly observe inmates in EOH at random intervals by conducting an EOH welfare check. EOH welfare checks shall not exceed 15 minutes between checks.
 1. Deputies should be cognizant of the inmate's physical condition that may require medical attention. Health staff must be notified immediately if the inmate exhibits any signs of medical distress, including agitated psychosis and/or agitated delirium. A medical doctor shall be contacted for an opinion anytime the inmate's status or condition warrants an evaluation.
 2. Modification to the documentation of EOH welfare checks and/or information identifying EOH units shall be outlined via a facility green sheet.

- B. Each inmate shall have a nursing assessment within 30 minutes of placement into EOH. A nursing assessment shall be completed at least every 24 hours thereafter or when clinically indicated (refer to Medical Services Division Operations Manual section MSD.S.10 for further details).
- C. Within 24 hours of placement into EOH, and every 24 hours thereafter, an inmate shall have a mental health consultation/evaluation by a QMHP to determine the inmate's need for mental health services and their suitability for continued retention in the ISP (refer to Medical Services Division Operations Manual section MSD.S.10 for further details).
- D. At least once per shift, the watch commander will observe EOH inmates and document such in the JIMS Area Activity Log.

V. LOGGING EOH WELFARE CHECKS IN JIMS

- A. At the start of an EOH welfare check, the deputy will document the check in JIMS utilizing the "EOH WELFARE CHECK" event type. The description field of the entry shall include the name(s) and/or ARJIS(s) of the sworn staff conducting the check. Once all necessary fields are complete, the sworn staff making the log entry will immediately close the "EOH WELFARE CHECK" entry prior to deputies conducting the check.
- B. At the conclusion of the EOH welfare check, an entry may be logged in JIMS using the event type "EOH NOTES" if there was anything encountered during the EOH welfare check. Items that necessitate documentation include, but are not limited to:
 1. Inmate in medical distress (e.g., asthma attack, chest pain, etc.)
 2. Inmate suffering medical trauma (e.g., bleeding, ligation marks, etc.)
 3. Criminal activity (e.g., drug usage, fighting, etc.)
 4. Facility damage (e.g., broken fixtures, graffiti, etc.)
 5. Maintenance issues (e.g., clogged toilet, constantly running water, etc.)
 6. Different or additional sworn staff conducted the EOH welfare check
 7. Anything that delayed the start or completion of the EOH welfare check.
- C. In the event an EOH welfare check requirement cannot be met, the deputy of the affected area shall document an explanation in the "EOH NOTES" log entry and immediately notify the responsible supervisor. Upon notification or as soon as practicable, the supervisor shall notate in a "SUPERVISOR'S LOG REVIEW" entry in JIMS, indicating they are aware the EOH welfare check was not conducted within the required timeframe

VI. NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. All food and water shall be served in soft, disposable containers.

- B. Deputies are responsible for providing meals during normal mealtimes. The deputy providing the meal must ensure there are no items that the inmate may use to inflict injury, such as plastic utensils, plastic bags or cellophane wrappers. Disposable cardboard utensils are the only utensils authorized in EOH.
- C. Any refusals of meals will be documented in the inmate's JIMS history.

VII. REMOVAL

- A. Inmates can be moved from one housing assignment to another within the ISP based on the observations and direction of the facility gatekeeper. An inmate that becomes actively self-harming or actively assaultive may be moved from EOH to a safety cell.
- B. When the medical or mental health condition of an inmate would be threatened by continued retention in any ISP housing, the inmate shall immediately be removed and transported to an emergency department. If a watch commander removes an inmate from ISP housing under such exigent circumstances and without consultation with a QMHP, the watch commander is required to articulate why the inmate was removed in a JIMS incident report.
- C. If an inmate is removed from EOH for the purpose of release from custody, the watch commander will consult with a QMHP to determine whether the inmate is likely to pose a threat to themselves or others. If the inmate does not pose a threat, they will be released following established release procedures. If the inmate is actively expressing suicidal ideations, the inmate will be transported to the Emergency Psychiatric Unit at San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital (EPU) in compliance with DSB P&P J.7.

VIII. SANITATION

EOH units, to include single cells, multiple occupancy modules, or medical isolation shall be cleaned and disinfected using facility approved disinfectants or diluted bleach solution after every use and every 24 hours when occupied.