

DATE:	FEBRUARY 1, 2019
NUMBER:	M.4
SUBJECT:	SUICIDE PREVENTION AND FOCUSED RESPONSE TEAM
RELATED SECTIONS:	A.7 , J.1 , J.4 , J.5 , J.7 , M.7 , MSD D.1

PURPOSE

To establish a process for the implementation of training, review of suicide prevention practices and suicide related incidents within Sheriff's detention facilities.

POLICY

The San Diego Sheriff's Department recognizes that suicide prevention is a collaborative effort of all employees regardless of professional discipline or job title. The Detention Services Bureau's goal is to combat inmate suicide through training and implementation of the Suicide Prevention and Focused Response (SPFR) team. Together the SPFR team and Medical Services Division (MSD) administrator shall implement a training curriculum pertaining to the mentally ill. Training will encompass identifying suicidal inmates as well as suicide intervention strategies. The SPFR team will also serve as auditors, by reviewing suicide prevention practices and suicide related incidents, to ensure compliance with policies, procedures and standards.

PROCEDURE:

I. SPFR CHAIRPERSON AND TEAM

- A. The DSB Captain designated by DSB Command will serve as the chairperson of the SPFR team.
- B. The Detention Services Bureau (DSB) Policy and Procedure Committee members from the following will serve on the SPFR team: Division of Inspectional Services, Jail Population Management Unit, Detention In-Service Training Unit (DTU), Reentry Services Division, Detention Support Division, and MSD.
- C. The Liberty Health Program Director or designee, as appointed by the SPFR chairperson, will also serve on the SPFR team.
- D. The SPFR team chairperson may request individuals from other bureaus or units (e.g., Detention Investigations Unit, Homicide, Sheriff's Legal Counsel, etc.) attend SPFR meetings.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The SPFR team will meet on a monthly basis, or as needed, to discuss current information related to suicide prevention and or inmate suicides with the intent to collaboratively identify best practices for implementation via policies and procedures. As auditors, the SPFR team will accomplish the following:

1. Ensure compliance of all Department and Bureau policies and procedures related to suicide prevention and response.
 2. Review Inmate Safety Program (ISP) procedures to ensure they are being carried out consistently.
 3. Track all incidents of self-harm and attempted suicide; review all serious suicide attempts (defined as incidents of self-harm and/or attempted suicide that result in medical treatment outside of the jail facility) and suicides.
 4. Evaluate medical procedures performed (e.g., Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation [CPR], etc.) as well as cell entry and cut-down procedures to ensure Department and National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) standards were met.
 5. Ensure all required documentation for suicide death reporting is reviewed within 30 days in adherence with NCCHC standards.
- B. In identifying the need for training, the SPFR team will revise and or implement training related to the mentally ill, suicide prevention and response topics. Training will be accomplished in collaboration with DTU and the Medical Training Unit.
- C. The review of incidents or recommendations, resulting from the Critical Incident Review Board, may prompt the need to review operational practices. In collaboration with the DSB Policy and Procedure Committee, the SPFR team will accomplish the following:
1. Revise policies and procedures related to suicide prevention and response to ensure compliance with national standards.
 2. Draft, revise, review, track and finalize policies and procedures, as assigned by the SPFR chairperson.
- D. Any written reports prepared by the SPFR team or its members shall be presented at a Medical Review meeting pursuant to MSD P&P Section D.1 and DSB P&P Section M.7, or to the Critical Incident Review Board.