

SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
COURT SERVICES BUREAU
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

DATE	DISSEMINATION	CATEGORY	NUMBER
August 01, 2017	SAN DIEGO	COURT HOLDING	E.09.S
SUBJECT: ADULT INMATE ACCESS TO COUNSEL – TITLE 15 COMPLIANCE			PAGE 1 of 2

Purpose:

To establish guidelines for the San Diego Central Courthouse (SDCC) use of the Attorney Visit Areas.

Policy:

Attorneys will not be allowed to visit inmates in [REDACTED] Holding. Attorney visitation will be held in the attorney visit areas adjacent to the courtrooms. Deputies will balance the needs of the court and proper legal defense with the requirement that the attorney visit area remain safe for staff, attorneys and other visitors and inmates alike.

Procedure:

- I. Attorneys requesting entry to the attorney visiting area, shall have identification (Driver License and California Bar Card) on their persons and available for inspection.
- II. Deputies assigned to a holding area should remain constantly aware of the number of attorneys and inmates in the attorney visit area with the goal of safety for all parties in mind.
- III. Attorneys will contact the courtroom bailiff to speak with an inmate in the attorney visit area. The bailiff will contact the adjacent holding tank deputies to have the inmate moved into the attorney visit area.
- IV. The deputy assigned to the holding tank will place the inmate into the attorney visit area.
 - a. Because of the possibility to pass contraband between attorneys and inmates in the visit area, deputies will closely monitor the inmate(s), while still maintaining attorney/client confidentiality;
 - b. When the inmate has completed his/her attorney visit, a pat down search will be conducted;
 - c. Only the authorized persons listed in CSB Policy and Procedure section E.13 will be allowed to accompany attorneys into the attorney visit area;

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- d. Bailiffs will have the primary authority to exclude those persons who may adversely affect the safety and security of the attorney visit area.
- V. Disputes regarding entry or use of the attorney visit area shall be reported to a supervisor as soon as practicable.