



San Diego County Sheriff

Training Bulletin

Kelly A. Martinez, Sheriff

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I.22 Lower Bunk/Lower Tier and Medical Instruction Assignment P&P Update

The purpose of this training bulletin is to outline changes to [DSB P&P section I.22](#). Please review I.22 in its entirety for further details.

Medical instructions for housing requirements are determined by health staff. Sworn staff will review and resolve any discrepancies in housing/bunk assignments due to medical instructions for housing requirements.

Assigning Medical Instructions for Housing Requirements

Health staff will determine and document what housing accessibility features an incarcerated person with a physical impairment or disability requires for their safety and appropriate housing assignment. Accessible housing features may include, but are not limited to: ADA compliant cell, ADA compliant shower, bed location, clearance space, toilet grab bars, shower grab bars, shower bench/chair, or lower bunk and/or lower tier.

A lower bunk and/or lower tier placement is **required** when input by health staff.

Medical Instructions for Housing Requirements

Medical instructions for housing requirements are viewable in JIMS as Medical Instructions. Detailed accommodation instructions are viewable in the ADA Report.

Incarcerated persons with the "ADA MOBILITY" medical instruction ***shall not*** be assigned to the top bed of a triple bunk.

Incarcerated persons with the "ORTHOPEDIC DEVICE – WHEELCHAIR" medical instruction ***shall*** be assigned a bottom bunk on the lower tier and **cannot** be assigned to any bed in a triple bunk. They ***shall*** be housed in ADA accessible housing.

Incarcerated persons with "INTERMITTENT WHEELCHAIR" medical instruction or other mobility disabilities ***shall*** be individually assessed for accessible housing accommodation needs. With the exception that incarcerated persons with the "ADA MOBILITY" and "INTERMITTENT WHEELCHAIR" medical instruction ***shall not*** be assigned to any bed in a triple bunk.

- People with mobility disabilities will be assigned to accessible housing based on their accessibility needs, which may include accessible beds, grab bars, clearance space, and low bunk or low tier.
- People with mobility disabilities will be provided accessible toileting and accessible showers based on their accessibility needs.



The information in this training bulletin was provided by the Sheriff's Department Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Unit. If you have any information or expertise in a specific area and would like to write a training bulletin, please contact the ADA Unit at [619-7927700](tel:619-7927700) • Pro Staff Phone-Home-Email-Birth-Medical-Test Score

Providing Housing Requirements

All incarcerated persons who have been screened and determined to have a disability will be housed in a facility with the appropriate accommodations, unless the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration, direct threat or safety and security risk, undue financial or administrative burden, or during an emergency situation.

Housing deputies will be responsible for assigning incarcerated persons with medical instructions for housing requirements the appropriate housing bed. Housing bed assignments and changes should be reflected in the housing unit's JIMS Observation Status Board (OSB).

Exclusion of Housing Accommodations

If sworn staff is unable to accommodate disability related housing requirements, sworn staff **shall** confer with JPMU and health staff to determine appropriate housing options.

Incidents where disability related housing accessibility accommodations cannot be provided **shall** be documented in a JIMS Incident Report with the type code: "ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act." The individual will be provided accessible housing as soon as it becomes available for the individual.

While the ADA housing renovations are in process, accessible housing will be provided as available.

1. Single bunk or a bottom bunk of a double **shall** be provided to all incarcerated persons with wheelchairs or with a mobility disability that medical staff determines require lower bunk/lower tier placement.
2. Portable shower chairs will be provided as an interim solution if an ADA compliant shower is not available.

Refusing Medical Instructions for Housing Requirements

If health staff determines a need for lower bunk and/or lower tier housing requirements or accommodation, and an incarcerated person refuses to accept such as medical care or treatment, health staff will have the incarcerated person sign a Refusal to Accept Medical Care/Treatment (J-223) form, documenting their reason for refusing medical treatment.

- Health staff must provide counseling to the incarcerated person about the importance of medical instructions for housing requirements.

Incarcerated persons with an "ADA MOBILITY" instruction may refuse to accept applicable housing accommodations.

- The ADA Unit, or designee, **shall** interview the person in an attempt to resolve any concerns regarding the accessible housing assignment. Staff will document the interaction via a Body Worn Camera (BWC), as available. If the incarcerated person still refuses the accommodated housing assignment after the interview, health staff will ask the person to sign a Refusal to Accept Medical Care/Treatment (J-223) form, documenting their reason for refusing medical treatment.

In the event the incarcerated person refuses to sign the J-223 form, health staff **shall** sign the form documenting the reason for the refusal. Every effort should be made to obtain a second health staff witness to sign form; however, if a second health staff member is not present to witness the refusal, a sworn staff member may sign the second witness line.

