



William D. Gore
Sheriff

San Diego County

SHERIFF

LINE-UP TRAINING

Safety Cell Procedures

Topic # 15

After discussing/reviewing the below training material in line-up (briefing), sworn staff shall sign off as completed in LMS. In the event a staff member is not present when this topic is discussed in line-up, they shall independently read, review, and complete the training.

By clicking "Yes" to "Have you completed this activity?" in LMS, you are attesting that you have viewed, read, and completed the training activity.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this training is to familiarize staff with safety cell procedures.

II. POLICY

This training is conducted in accordance with DSB P&P [Section J.1- Safety Cells](#), [Section J.4 - Enhanced Observation Housing](#), and [Section J.5 – Inmate Suicide Prevention Practices & Inmate Safety Program](#).

III. DISCUSSION

Sworn staff shall review and discuss the following topics and procedures related to safety cells and use as described in [DSB P&P Section J.1 – Safety Cells](#) and related facility specific green sheets.

- A. Safety Cell definition as per policy and procedure, Title 15, and Title 24
- B. Safety Cell Placement Procedures
 1. Actively self –harming or actively assaultive behavior
 2. Placement of Book and Release inmates
 - a. Obtaining photographs and fingerprints
 - b. Deputy escort (constant observation) through the booking process
 3. Removal and storage of inmate property, clothing, jewelry, etc.
 4. Issuance of a safety garment
 5. Removal of a safety garment

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This Line-Up Training Topic was prepared by the Detention In-Service Training Unit.



- a. Notifications and approval of removed safety garment
- C. Safety Cell Documentation
1. Required JIMS incident reports
 2. Appropriate use of primary and additional incident type codes
 - a. SCP – Safety Cell Placement
 - b. ZTH – ISP Type-Homicidal
 - c. ZTS – ISP Type-Self-Injury
 - d. ZMV – ISP Method - Verbal
 - e. ZMA – ISP Method - Active
 - f. SCU – Safety Cell Update
- D. Safety Cell Transfers
1. Required JIMS incident reports
- E. Monitoring inmates in the Safety Cell
1. Inmate Observation Log (J-19A) requirements
 - a. Observations at [REDACTED] between checks.
 2. Requirements for nursing assessments
 3. Facility gatekeeper observation and movement
 - a. Movement to Enhanced Observation Housing (EOH) as determined by the facility gatekeeper.
 - b. Watch commander "override" parameters
 4. Requirements for Qualified Mental Health Provider (QMHP) assessments
 5. Requirements for watch commander observations
- F. Nutritional Requirements
1. Logging meals and water offered (and refusal of meals)
 2. Food service containers (disposable only)
- G. Removal from the Safety Cell
1. Facility gatekeeper observations and movement to EOH
 2. Removal from the Inmate Safety Program (ISP) is solely determined by a QMHP.
 3. Inmates removed from the safety cell emergency medical transport
 4. Inmates removed from the safety cell for purposes of release from custody
 - a. Inmate requiring transport to Emergency Psychiatric Unit at San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital (EPU).
- H. Sanitation of Safety Cells
- I. Fire safety related to Safety Cells



J. Staff shall review and discuss Inmate Suicide Prevention Practices and Inmate Safety Program

As stated in [DSB P&P Section J.5 – Inmate Suicide Prevention Practices & Inmate Safety Program](#), Inmates who are recognized and observed as being a potential self-harm or suicide risk shall be assessed for consideration of placement into one of the defined Inmate Safety Program (ISP) housing options. Sworn staff shall immediately notify medical staff and the watch commander of any inmate that presents a potential or actual danger to self, danger to others or is unable to care for self.

Suicide risk assessment for the ISP will be conducted by the facility gatekeeper or trained designee. The primary gatekeepers will be a Qualified Mental Health Provider (QMHP). QMHP refers to a Psychologist, Psychiatrist, Licensed Mental Health Clinician (MHC), Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) or a Psychiatric Registered Nurse (PRN).

The following are identified high suicide risk factors that when identified, require further assessment by the facility gatekeeper for **CONSIDERATION** of placement into ISP housing:

1. High publicity case with possible evasion of arrest or SWAT/SED standoff with serious felony charges, including but not limited to: homicide, rape, or child victim crimes.
2. Severe, life or death sentences.
3. The inmate states he/she is suicidal and/or made suicidal statements to sworn staff, medical, family, etc.
4. Previous suicide attempts (within the past five years).
5. Staff observation of depressed/emotional turmoil.

Other risk factors that could cause circumstantial concerns and may initiate an assessment for consideration of placement into ISP housing include, but are not limited to, the following.

6. Intoxication/withdrawal
7. History of psychiatric illness.
8. First time offender.
9. Physical signs of depression (sadness, crying, withdrawal or silence, sudden loss or gain in appetite, insomnia, mood variations, lethargy, etc.)
10. Severe aggressiveness.