

DATE:	MAY 27, 2022
NUMBER:	M.25
SUBJECT:	PSYCHIATRIC STABILIZATION UNITS (PSU/WPSU)
RELATED SECTIONS:	I.47 ; SDSD P&P 6.48

PURPOSE

To establish the procedures for the Psychiatric Stabilization Units.

POLICY

Sworn staff shall be responsible for security of the Psychiatric Stabilization Unit (PSU) and Women's Psychiatric Stabilization Unit (WPSU) with input from health staff. The PSU/WPSU health staff shall be responsible for evaluations and treatment.

For assignment to a post position in the PSU/WPSU, sworn staff will complete a course curriculum established by the Detention In-Service Training Unit (DTU). The curriculum has been developed in collaboration between DTU and the Medical Services Division as an orientation to the guidelines associated with a Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) licensed care unit.

Administrative staff from the facilities will be responsible for communicating to DTU any personnel selected for assignment to PSU/WPSU prior to or upon selection in order to schedule or verify completion of the curriculum. Only those assigned to either the San Diego Central Jail (SDCJ) or the Las Colinas Detention and Reentry Facility (LCDRF) shall work these positions.

PROCEDURE

I. REFERRALS FOR PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION

Any person who has pertinent information regarding the behavior of any incarcerated person may make incarcerated person referrals to the health staff.

II. ADMISSION

- A. The Psychiatric Stabilization Units are located at SDCJ (PSU) and LCDRF (WPSU).
- B. Incarcerated persons shall be admitted to the PSU/WPSU at the order of either staff psychiatrists, San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital (SDCPH), Emergency Psychiatric Unit (EPU) psychiatrists, or by a court order.

III. SECURITY

- A. Safety checks shall be conducted and documented in compliance with Detention Services Bureau Policies and Procedures (DSB P&P) section I.64. However, sworn staff shall log and conduct a safety check at least once within every 30-minute time

period. This check shall include housing, common areas, treatment/interview areas, close observation cells, and holding areas.

- B. Extraordinary incidents shall be brought to the attention of the watch commander.
- C. PSU/WPSU incarcerated persons are to be returned daily to their dormitory no later than 2200 hours.
- D. Incarcerated persons may be removed from the housing unit for acute psychiatric, medical, or security reasons and only with a deputy present.
 - 1. When security is compromised and the incarcerated person is considered to be extremely dangerous, sworn staff may move the incarcerated person to another housing area. If possible, the PSU/WPSU health supervisor or designee, or the staff psychiatrist shall be consulted first.
 - 2. Health staff shall notify the watch commander when the medical needs of any PSU/WPSU incarcerated person require that they be housed in the medical observation area rather than PSU/WPSU, or if the PSU/WPSU incarcerated person is discharged from the PSU/WPSU to another housing assignment while on suicide precautions.
 - 3. When an incarcerated person is discharged from the PSU/WPSU, the Jail Population Management Unit shall be consulted to determine the appropriate housing assignment for the incarcerated person.
 - 4. PSU/WPSU sworn, and health staff shall be notified prior to removing or when returning an incarcerated person to the housing unit.
 - 5. PSU/WPSU sworn, and health staff shall be notified in advance of any tour or visit to the PSU/WPSU to prevent disruption of activities within the housing unit.

IV. WRISTBANDS

- A. Incarcerated persons housed in PSU/WPSU shall wear red identification wristbands while housed in PSU/WPSU. Plastic fasteners are available for individuals who may use metal for self-injury or are allergic to metal fasteners.
- B. The red identification wristband shall be applied and removed by sworn staff whenever an incarcerated person is admitted to or discharged from the unit.
- C. The red identification wristband shall be worn on the left wrist.
- D. The PSU/WPSU health staff shall make no alterations to the wristband.
- E. If it becomes necessary to change an incarcerated person's wristband, sworn staff shall make the change.

V. SECURITY BEDDING

The only bedding incarcerated persons in PSU/WPSU shall possess are two safety blankets, one of which may be used as a mattress cover. Cotton/wool blankets and sheets are prohibited in the PSU/WPSU.

VI. MEAL DISTRIBUTION

- A. All food and water shall be served in soft, disposable containers.
- B. Sworn staff are responsible for providing meals during normal mealtimes. The staff providing the meal must ensure there are no items that the incarcerated person may use to inflict injury.

VII. TREATMENT

- A. Application for evaluation for treatment is covered under the Welfare and Institutions Code 5150.
- B. Sworn staff may be requested to move an incarcerated person to an isolation or seclusion cell by the PSU/WPSU charge nurse and/or psychiatrist.
- C. A time specific seclusion order by a psychiatrist is required to house an incarcerated person in seclusion and/or restraints.
- D. Anytime health staff enters a seclusion cell to provide care and or treatment, sworn staff shall accompany them and provide security.

VIII. USE OF RESTRAINTS

- A. Sworn staff are responsible for containing the incarcerated while PSU/WPSU health staff apply the restraints.
- B. If sworn staff assists with the application of restraints in collaboration with PSU/WPSU health staff, health staff will verify correct placement when completed.
- C. Color coded blue upper extremity and red lower extremity and waist restraints are the only type of restraints authorized for incarcerated persons housed in PSU/WPSU. These restraints are used when less restrictive forms of treatment (i.e. medication) are not sufficient or not an option.
- D. Four-point restraints shall be used only in PSU/WPSU under the supervision and direction of the psychiatrist and/or PSU/WPSU health staff. Registered nurses may make the decision to place an incarcerated person in four-point restraints. Registered nurses shall obtain a psychiatrist's order within one hour after placement.
- E. The restraint chair shall not be used in PSU/WPSU.

- F. When the is restrained, sworn staff shall assist the nurse in range of motion and other mandatory actions.

IX. SUICIDE ATTEMPTS

- A. In the event of any suicide attempt or self-harm incident, the PSU/WPSU control deputy and health staff shall be notified immediately.
- B. The decision to isolate, separate, or otherwise protect an incarcerated person that has attempted suicide or self-harm shall be made by the PSU/WPSU health staff.

X. CLOSE OBSERVATION/SUICIDE PRECAUTIONS

Due to the behavior of some PSU/WPSU incarcerated persons,-it may be necessary to move an incarcerated person to another cell for closer observation and/or remove certain items from them.

If the incarcerated person has been determined by PSU/WPSU health staff to require closer observation or placed on suicide precaution and/or 1:1 observation, their cell will be inspected by sworn staff at least once per shift for contraband. The results of the inspection will be logged in the Jail Information Management System (JIMS) using the event type "CELL CHECK CONDUCTED".

A. Close Observation (CO)

1. If PSU/WPSU health staff or a psychiatrist determines an incarcerated person requires closer observation but does not have suicidal or homicidal ideations, the incarcerated person will be placed in a CO cell (facility green sheets shall identify which cells in PSU/WPSU are utilized for CO). The
2. incarcerated person can keep their clothes and property. A JIMS Incident Report shall be written by sworn staff documenting the need for close observation.
3. Safety checks shall be conducted at random intervals in accordance with section III of this policy.
4. The incarcerated person can be cleared from CO by PSU/WPSU health staff.

B. Suicide Precaution (SP)

If an incarcerated person has voiced suicidal or homicidal ideations, an assessment of the incarcerated person will be conducted by PSU/WPSU health staff. If the incarcerated person has been admitted on an involuntary status, they will be placed in a CO cell under SP. If the incarcerated person is admitted voluntarily, and waives their rights, they will be placed in a CO cell under SP. Voluntary admits who do not agree to the treatment plan may be placed on an involuntary hold or discharged from the unit and placed into the Detentions Safety Program. A JIMS Incident Report utilizing the event type "PSU SP" (psychiatric stabilization unit suicide precaution) shall be written articulating the reasons

for placement on SP.

1. An incarcerated person placed on SP shall have all their clothing, wristband and property removed. Property shall be stored in a secure location until the incarcerated person is cleared from SP. For security purposes, deputies will remain with the incarcerated person during the process to ensure all items listed above are removed.
2. All incarcerated persons placed on SP will be issued a safety mattress, safety garment, shower shoes, and two safety blankets. The above-mentioned items may be removed if they are used for any other purpose than intended. Documentation in a JIMS Incident Report is required if any of the items are removed.
3. Showers, dayroom, recreation, and social phone calls will be offered in accordance with PSU/WPSU health staff recommendations, Title 15 guidelines and LPS regulations.
4. Hygiene items will be provided as needed by PSU/WPSU staff and immediately returned after use.
5. Incarcerated persons on SP will be offered meals in accordance with Title 15 guidelines. All food and water shall be served in soft, disposable containers. The deputy providing the meal must ensure there are no items that the incarcerated person may use to inflict injury such as plastic utensils, plastic coverings, or plastic bags. Disposable cardboard utensils are the only utensil authorized. Deputies shall collect all trash from meals on the subsequent safety check.
6. Deputies will closely monitor and directly observe incarcerated persons on SP at random intervals not to exceed 15 minutes between checks. The welfare check will be documented in JIMS utilizing the event type "SP WELFARE CHECK". The description field of the entry shall include the name(s) and/or ARJIS(s) of the sworn staff conducting the check and the accurate disposition. In the event a SP WELFARE CHECK requirement cannot be met; the deputy shall provide a documented explanation in the notes field of the SP WELFARE CHECK entry and must immediately notify the housing unit supervisor. Upon review of the JIMS Area Activity Log, the supervisor shall make a notation in the notes field utilizing the event type "SUPERVISOR'S LOG REVIEW".
7. The incarcerated person can be cleared from SP by PSU/WPSU health staff.

XI. COURT ORDERED PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATIONS

PSU/WPSU health staff shall process California Penal Code 4011.6 court orders for psychiatric evaluation as soon as possible after the court order is received.

XII. RELEASE OF INCARCERATED PERSONS TO THE COMMUNITY

If an incarcerated person is being released from custody and continues to exhibit behaviors potentially dangerous to self/others or reflect grave disability secondary to a mental disorder, sworn and health staff shall complete the following:

A. PSU/WPSU incarcerated person on an involuntary hold:

1. The PSU/WPSU charge nurse shall notify the watch commander of the need to transport the incarcerated person to the EPU for further assessment and disposition. The PSU/WPSU charge nurse will advise EPU of the impending incarcerated person's transfer.
2. The watch commander shall notify the on-duty detention processing supervisor (DPS) of the impending release.
3. The involuntary hold paperwork must accompany the incarcerated person to EPU. The PSU/WPSU charge nurse is responsible for ensuring all necessary documents accompany the incarcerated person.

B. If the PSU/WPSU incarcerated person does not have an involuntary hold and still presents a potential danger to self/others or is gravely disabled:

1. A Request for 72 Hour Detention (MH-302) form ~~a~~ shall be completed by sworn staff in the absence of a qualified mental health professional (QMHP) prior to the incarcerated person's transfer to EPU. A NetRMS incident report shall be completed by sworn staff.
2. Health staff shall notify EPU of the impending transfer of the incarcerated person.
3. The watch commander shall notify the on-duty DPS of the impending release.

Sworn staff will transport the incarcerated person to EPU and provide the required documents to the EPU psychiatrist. The deputy will remain with the released individual until a safe and orderly transfer of services is completed and the EPU psychiatrist on duty releases the deputy from further standby duties.