San Diego County Sheriff's Department Detention Services Bureau - Manual of Policies and Procedures

DATE: MAY 23, 2022

NUMBER: O.6

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED PERSON (AKA: JOHN/JANE DOE)

RELATED SECTIONS: Q.5, Q.7, Q.8

PURPOSE

To provide a standard procedure for processing incarcerated persons whose identity cannot be established through normal procedures.

POLICY

All arrested persons brought to Sheriff's detention facilities will be booked in accordance with state and federal laws, state guidelines and/or court orders. A facility will not refuse to book an incarcerated person due to lack of identity.

PROCEDURE

- If an arrested person refuses or is unable to supply the arresting officer (AO)/transporting officer with a name and is brought to a booking facility as a John or Jane Doe, the AO/transporting officer will be directed to stand by while the arrested person is fingerprinted and live scanned. Deputies will contact CAL-ID prior to live scanning to request an identity only number (IDN). If the arrested person's true identity is confirmed, they will be booked with that information. If after this process the arrested person's identity is still unknown, they will be booked as John or Jane Doe. If the AO has already attempted to find the arrested person's true identity through CAL-ID notify the on-duty detention processing supervisor.
 - A. Intoxicated or under the influence of drugs.
 - 1. Incarcerated persons under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be placed in a holding cell, sobering cell or safety cell as appropriate for their condition and will be booked as John or Jane Doe.
 - 2. If after the detoxification period, the incarcerated person is unwilling to provide their true name, the fingerprint and live scan process above will be followed.
 - B. Possible mental impairment.
 - 1. Incarcerated persons who do not cooperate with the booking process due to possible mental impairment will be referred to the facility medical staff.
 - 2. The incarcerated person will be booked as a John or Jane Doe until identification can be determined.

C. Date of birth for John or Jane Doe:

If a date of birth is not provided on the Booking Intake/Personal Property Inventory (J-15) form for a John or Jane Doe, January 1 will be used as the month and day of birth. Their approximate age will need to be estimated and subtracted from the current year. Example: the incarcerated person looks to be about 30 years old and the current year is 2003

(2003 - 30 = 1973). In this case, the date of birth used would be January 1, 1973.

II. If an incarcerated person refuses or is unable to be fingerprinted, refer to Detention Policy and Procedures section Q.8 Refusal to Cooperate with the Booking Process.