

EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR MENTALLY ILL PROBATIONERS

- AUTHORITY:** Section 5150 of the Welfare and Institutions Code
Administrative Directive
- RESCINDS:** Procedure Manual Item 1-4-002, dated **02/25/21**
- FORMS:** Application for 72-Hour Detention for Evaluation and Treatment
(Non-Probation F346-501MH 302; St. of CA H&S Agency)
- PURPOSE:** To provide guidelines for securing emergency psychiatric / psychological services for mentally ill probationers.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Emergency psychiatric / psychological services should be sought only for those clients who appear to be severely disabled or dangerous because of a mental illness.
- Deputies may be aware of a pre-existing diagnosis or history of treatment for mental illness and ought to distinguish between a psychotic break or episode versus intoxication of drugs and/or alcohol.
- B. Categories of involuntary psychiatric hospitalization are:
1. Danger to others (e.g., assaultive/homicidal/combative). Be mindful that aggressive/combative behavior could be a symptom of mental illness as opposed to criminal behavior.
 2. Danger to self (e.g., suicidal/self-mutilating).
 3. Gravely disabled (e.g., unable to provide for his or her basic personal needs for food, clothing or shelter and unable to utilize resources made available to them). Merely being homeless or transient does not necessarily meet 5150 WIC criteria.
- C. Non-emergent mental health problems should be referred to appropriate county or private treatment resources.
- D. Emergency psychiatric/psychological services, including hospitalization under Section 5150 WIC, are provided by County of Orange Health Care Agency (HCA) Behavioral Health Services / CAT (Centralized Assessment Team).
- E. The deputy should not endanger personal safety when confronted with a client who appears dangerous or assaultive. Contact the police for immediate assistance.

II. PROCEDURE

A. Office or Field

When a probationer or other person appears at the office or is encountered in the field, and appears to be suffering from one or more of the symptoms of severe mental illness (suicidal, assaultive, etc.), the following steps should be taken:

1. Keep the person as calm as possible.
2. Options available are as follows:
 - a. Contact local police and request assistance with regards to a possible 5150 WIC detention. They may or may not have an available officer who is qualified to perform a 5150 WIC evaluation. (This is used only when probationer is hostile)

-OR-

- b. During normal business hours (M-F) contact appropriate HCA Behavioral Health regional clinic. Request assistance from the Officer of the Day. They may be available to assist and arrive on scene and perform a 5150 WIC evaluation.

-OR-

- c. Contact CAT (Centralized Assessment Team). (1-866-830-6011 or 714-517-6353) CAT can be contacted 24 hours a day / 7 days a week. They will provide emergency psychiatric evaluation services. They serve any adult who has a psychiatric emergency, is at psychiatric risk or needs psychiatric hospitalization. (This is best used when placement is involuntary).

3. Medical Treatment

- a. Deputies are to be mindful that ETS does not provide any medical services, only psychiatric and psychological treatment. Consistent with current departmental procedure, if the probationer is in need of medical attention (in addition to his/her mental illness), deputies should take the probationer to Anaheim Global Medical Center located at 1025 S. Anaheim Blvd., Anaheim CA (714) 533-6220 or another Probation approved facility for treatment and clearance prior to any detention due to mental illness. At this point, staff should seek assistance from hospital staff with regards to any further evaluation for an involuntary psychiatric hold.

Note: If the probationer is in need of urgent care, call 911 for emergency assistance.

4. Juvenile Offenders

- a. Involuntary holds due to mental illness are much different with regards to juveniles. Since juveniles are **underage**, parents or

guardians are involved and have a great deal of responsibility. However, in an emergency situation contact the appropriate HCA Children Youth Services (CYS) regional clinic during normal business hours M-F or contact Clinical Evaluation and Guidance Unit (CEGU) on weekends and after hours at (714) 935-6363 **or (714) 935-8217** and seek further assistance on how to proceed.

REFERENCES:

Procedures:	1-4-003	Suicide Prevention
	1-4-101	Incidents for Injuries Involving the Public
	1-4-104	Threats: Staff Responsibilities Regarding Threats and Notice to Unsuspecting Victims
	1-4-110	Assaults or Threats Against Employees
	3-1-404	Referral of Youth to Mental health
Policy:	D-1	Threats, Harm, Danger to Employees and Others

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APPROVED BY: