

Memorandum

Date: September 9, 2019
To: Custody Deputies
From: Custody Commander Ryan Sullivan
Subject: Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) Deputy Briefing Guidelines
CC: Chief Wasilewski



In accordance with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Updated Guidance to Surveyors on Federal Requirements for Providing Services to Justice Involved Individuals (May 3, 2016), to maintain custody of a justice-involved individual, e.g., an individual currently in custody and held involuntarily by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office ("SBSO") (hereinafter "Inmate"), SBSO personnel shall be physically present with an Inmate sent to the PHF at all times, when assigned, to supervise an inmate. Sheriff Deputies who accompany Inmates do so to prevent escape and to enforce the law (hereinafter "Accompanying Deputies").

Accompanying Deputies are not responsible for hospital security nor do they perform any other care or service to patients on behalf of the hospital. Their role at the PHF is strictly one of law enforcement, not of patient care. PHF staff is responsible for an appropriate assessment of, and the provision of safe, appropriate care to, each Inmate. SBSO requires deputies to complete Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). SBSO warrants that deputies sent to the PHF have completed this training.

While on the PHF unit, Accompanying Deputies shall comply with the following protocols:

- When reporting for duty at the PHF, the on-coming Accompanying Deputy will be briefed by the off-going Accompanying Deputy along with on-duty PHF staff concerning the Inmate's current status. The briefing will include, but not be limited to:
 - The Inmate's behavior and demeanor over the previous shift;
 - Noncompliance with rules and regulations of the PHF by the Inmate;
 - Unusual or bizarre behavior exhibited by the Inmate;

- Any restrictions placed upon, or removed from, the Inmate by the PHF Physician;
- Any other pertinent information that might affect the Accompanying deputies law enforcement duties while at the PHF (i.e. bathroom out of order, unscheduled programming event, new or updated rules or procedures, etc.);
- The Inmate is allowed all of the rights as other patients, unless restricted by a physician. This provision includes but is not limited to telephone calls, meals, visitation and the ability to move throughout the facility (while being accompanied by the Deputy). While at the PHF, only PHF physicians can restrict privileges or rights.
- Accompanying Deputies shall communicate to PHF staff observations of unusual behavior or safety issues that may warrant intervention. Accompanying Deputies shall not place an Inmate in restraints or seclusion. If warranted, a PHF physician may order the restraint or seclusion of an Inmate.
- Accompanying Deputies may carry oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray and a Taser if trained to utilize such tools. SBSO warrants that any Deputy assigned to accompany an inmate to the PHF has been trained in such tools. Firearms and batons are not permitted in the PHF.
- In the event an Inmate starts to become agitated or aggressive, PHF staff shall first attempt to deescalate the situation. The Accompanying Deputy shall not intervene between PHF staff and an Inmate unless the Inmate poses an imminent threat to the safety of another patient, visitor, or PHF staff.
- The Accompanying Deputy shall not assist PHF staff with other patients that are not Inmates unless a patient poses an imminent threat to the safety of the Deputy, a patient, visitor, or PHF staff. In such case, the incident shall be handled as criminal activity and dealt with as law enforcement.
- The Accompanying Deputies shall keep their assigned Inmate within eyesight at all times and remain at a distance that allows for rapid intervention in an emergency. If a deputy must use the restroom or step away for a short period of time, they shall notify PHF staff prior to and upon returning to supervise the inmate.
- Accompanying Deputies shall follow all reasonable requests from PHF staff to maintain PHF unit safety and protect patients' rights. If time permits, and a question arises as to the reasonableness of a request by PHF staff, the Accompanying Deputy shall consult with their supervisor(s) for clarity. The SBSO supervisor and PHF leadership will communicate in the event of disagreement.

If you have any questions regarding any of these instructions, please contact a supervisor.



Custody Commander Ryan Sullivan