
Temporary Custody of Juveniles

312.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines consistent with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act for juveniles taken into temporary custody by employees of the California Department of State Hospitals (DSH), and the Office of Protective Services (OPS). (34 U.S.C. § 11133)

Guidance regarding contacting juveniles at schools or who may be victims is provided in the Child Abuse Policy.

312.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Juvenile non-offender - An abused, neglected, dependent or alien juvenile who may be legally held for his/her own safety or welfare. This also includes any juvenile who may have initially been contacted for an offense that would not subject an adult to arrest (e.g., fine-only offense) but was taken into custody for his/her protection or for purposes of reuniting the juvenile with a parent, guardian or other responsible person. Juveniles 11 years of age or younger are considered juvenile non-offenders even if they have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest.

Juvenile offender - A juvenile 12 to 17 years of age who is alleged to have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest (a non-status offense) (Welf. & Inst. Code 602). It also includes an offense under Pen. Code § 29610 for underage possession of a handgun or concealable firearm. (28 C.F.R. § 31.303.)

Non-secure custody - When a juvenile is held in the presence of an officer or other custody employee at all times and is not placed in a locked room, cell or behind any locked doors. Juveniles in non-secure custody may be handcuffed but not to a stationary or secure object. Personal supervision, through direct visual monitoring and audio two-way communication is maintained. Monitoring through electronic devices, such as video,

does not replace direct visual observation (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 207.1, subd. (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1150.)

Safety checks - Direct, visual observation personally by employees of DSH performed at random intervals within time frames prescribed in this policy to provide for the health and welfare of juveniles in temporary custody.

Secure custody - When a juvenile offender is held in a locked room, a set of rooms or a cell. Secure custody also includes being physically secured to a stationary object. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1146.)

Examples of secure custody include:

- (a) A juvenile left alone in an unlocked room within the secure perimeter of the adult temporary holding area.
- (b) A juvenile handcuffed to a rail.
- (c) A juvenile placed in a room that contains doors with delayed egress devices that have a delay of more than 30 seconds.
- (d) A juvenile being processed in a secure booking area when anon-secure booking area is available.
- (e) A juvenile left alone in a secure booking area after being photographed and fingerprinted.
- (f) A juvenile placed in a cell within the adult temporary holding area, whether or not the cell door is locked.
- (g) A juvenile placed in a room that is capable of being locked or contains a fixed object designed for cuffing or restricting movement.

Sight and sound separation - Located or arranged to prevent physical, visual or auditory contact.

Status offender - A juvenile suspected of committing a criminal violation of the law that would not be a criminal violation but for the age of the offender. Examples may include running away, underage possession of tobacco, curfew violation and truancy. A juvenile in custody on a court order or warrant based upon a status offense is also a status offender. This includes the habitually disobedient or truant juvenile under Welfare and Institutions Code section 601 and any juvenile suspected of an offense that would not subject an adult to arrest (e.g., fine-only offense).

312.2 POLICY

DSH is committed to releasing juveniles from temporary custody as soon as reasonably practicable and keeping juveniles safe while they are in temporary custody at DSH. Juveniles should be held in temporary custody only for as long as reasonably necessary for processing, transfer or release.

312.3 JUVENILES WHO SHOULD NOT BE HELD

Juveniles who exhibit any of the following conditions should not be held at DSH:

- (a) Unconscious
- (b) Seriously injured
- (c) A known suicide risk or obviously severely emotionally disturbed
- (d) Significantly intoxicated except when approved by the Watch Commander. A medical clearance shall be obtained for minors who are under the influence of drugs, alcohol or any other intoxicating substance to the extent that they are unable to care for themselves. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1151.)
- (e) Extremely violent or continuously violent

Officers taking custody of a juvenile who exhibits any of the above conditions should take reasonable steps to provide medical attention or mental health assistance and notify a supervisor of the situation. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, §§ 1142, 1151.)

These juveniles should not be held at DSH unless they have been evaluated by a qualified medical and/or mental health professional. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)

If the officer taking custody of the juvenile believes the juvenile may be a suicide risk, the juvenile shall be under continuous direct supervision until evaluation, release or a transfer is completed. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)

312.3.1 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE OF JUVENILES IN CUSTODY

When emergency medical attention is required for a juvenile, medical assistance will be called immediately. The Watch Commander shall be notified of the need for medical attention for the juvenile. DSH employees should administer first aid as applicable. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)

312.3.2 SUICIDE PREVENTION OF JUVENILES IN CUSTODY

DSH employees should be alert to potential symptoms based upon exhibited behavior that may indicate the juvenile is a suicide risk. These symptoms may include depression, refusal to communicate, verbally threatening to kill him/herself or any unusual behavior which may indicate the juvenile may harm him/herself while in either secure or non-secure custody. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)

312.4 CUSTODY OF JUVENILES

Officers should take custody of a juvenile and temporarily hold the juvenile at DSH when there is no other lawful and practicable alternative to temporary custody. Refer to the Child Abuse Policy for additional information regarding detaining a juvenile that is suspected of being a victim.

No juvenile should be held in temporary custody at DSH without authorization of the arresting officer's supervisor or the Watch Commander. Juveniles taken into custody shall be held in non-secure custody unless otherwise authorized by this policy.

Any juvenile taken into custody shall be released to the care of the juvenile's parent or other responsible adult or transferred to a juvenile custody facility or to other authority as soon as practicable and in no event shall a juvenile be held beyond six hours from the time of his/her entry into DSH. (34 U.S.C. § 11133; Welf. & Inst. Code, § 207.1, subd. (d).)

312.4.1 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE NON-OFFENDERS

Non-offenders taken into protective custody in compliance with the Child Abuse Policy should generally not be held at DSH. Custodial arrangements should be made for non-offenders as soon as reasonably possible. Juvenile non-offenders shall not be held in secure custody. (34 U.S.C. § 11133; Welf. & Inst. Code, § 206.)

Juveniles 11 years of age or younger who have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest may be held in non-secure custody for the offenses listed in Welfare and Institutions Code section 602(b) (murder and the sexual assault offenses) and should be referred to a probation officer for a placement determination.

312.4.2 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE STATUS OFFENDERS

Status offenders should generally be released by citation or with a warning rather than taken into temporary custody. However, officers may take custody of a status offender if requested to do so by a parent or legal guardian in order to facilitate reunification (e.g., transported home or to the station to await a parent). Juvenile status offenders shall not be held in secure custody. (34 U.S.C. § 11133.)

312.4.3 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Juvenile offenders should be held in non-secure custody while at DSH unless another form of custody is authorized by this policy or is necessary due to exigent circumstances.

Generally, a juvenile offender may be taken into custody when authorized by a court order or when there is probable cause to believe the juvenile has committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 625.)

A juvenile offender who is 14 years of age or older and suspected of using a firearm in violation of Welfare and Institutions Code section 625.3 shall be transported to a juvenile facility.

A juvenile offender suspected of committing murder or a sex offense that may subject a juvenile to criminal jurisdiction under Welfare and Institutions Code section 602, subdivision (b), or a serious or violent felony should be referred to a probation officer for a decision on further detention.

In all other cases the juvenile offender may be:

- (a) Released upon warning or citation.
- (b) Released to a parent or other responsible adult after processing at DSH.
- (c) Referred to a probation officer for a decision regarding whether to transport the juvenile offender to a juvenile facility.
- (d) Transported to his/her home or to the place where the juvenile offender was taken into custody. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 207.2.)

In determining which disposition is appropriate, the investigating officer or supervisor shall prefer the alternative which least restricts the juvenile's freedom of movement, provided that alternative is compatible with the best interests of the juvenile and the community. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 626.)

Whenever a juvenile offender under the age of 14 is taken into custody, the officer should take reasonable steps to verify and document the child's ability to differentiate between right and wrong, particularly in relation to the alleged offense. (Pen. Code, § 26.)

312.5 ADVISEMENTS

Officers shall take immediate steps to notify the juvenile's parent, guardian or a responsible relative that the juvenile is in custody, the location where the juvenile is being held and the intended disposition. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 627.)

Whenever a juvenile is taken into temporary custody, he/she shall be given the Miranda rights advisement regardless of whether questioning is intended. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 625.)

Anytime a juvenile offender is placed in secure custody, he/she shall be informed of the purpose of the secure custody, the length of time the secure custody is expected to last and of the maximum six-hour limitation. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 207.1, subd. (d).)

Juveniles taken into custody for an offense shall immediately be advised (or at least within one hour from being taken into custody, if possible) that they may make three telephone calls: one call completed to his/her parent or guardian; one to a responsible relative or his/her employer; and another call completed to an attorney. The calls shall be at no expense to the juvenile when completed to telephone numbers within the local calling area. Juveniles should be asked whether they are a caregiver and provided two more phone calls in the same manner as provided to adults in the Temporary Holding Facility Policy. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 627; Pen. Code, § 851.5.)

312.6 JUVENILE CUSTODY LOGS

Any time a juvenile is held in custody at DSH, the custody shall be promptly and properly documented in the juvenile custody log, including:

- (a) Identifying information about the juvenile being held.
- (b) Date and time of arrival and release from DSH. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1150.)
- (c) Watch Commander notification and approval to temporarily hold the juvenile.
- (d) Any charges for which the juvenile is being held and classification of the juvenile as a juvenile offender, status offender or non-offender.
- (e) Any changes in status (e.g., emergency situations, unusual incidents).
- (f) Time of all safety checks.
- (g) Any medical and other screening requested and completed. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)
- (h) Circumstances that justify any secure custody. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 207.1, subd. (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1145.)
- (i) Any other information that may be required by other authorities, such as compliance inspectors or a local juvenile court authority.

The Watch Commander shall initial the log to approve the custody, including any secure custody, and shall also initial the log when the juvenile is released.

312.7 NO-CONTACT REQUIREMENTS

Sight and sound separation shall be maintained between all juveniles and adults while in custody at DSH. (34 U.S.C. § 11133; Welf. & Inst. Code, §§ 207.1, subd. (d), 208; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1144.) There should also be sight and sound separation between non-offenders and juvenile and status offenders.

In situations where brief or accidental contact may occur (e.g., during the brief time a juvenile is being fingerprinted and/or photographed in booking), an employee of DSH (trained in the supervision of persons in custody) shall maintain a constant, immediate, side-by-side presence with the juvenile or the adult to minimize any contact. If inadvertent or accidental contact does occur, reasonable efforts shall be taken to end the contact. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1144.)

312.8 TEMPORARY CUSTODY REQUIREMENTS

Employees and supervisors assigned to monitor or process any juvenile at DSH shall ensure the following:

- (a) The Watch Commander should be notified if it is anticipated that a juvenile may need to remain at DSH more than four hours. This will enable the Watch Commander to ensure no juvenile is held at DSH more than six hours.
- (b) An employee of the same sex shall supervise personal hygiene activities and care, such as changing clothing or using the restroom, without direct observation to allow for privacy.
- (c) Personal safety checks and significant incidents/activities shall be noted on the log.
- (d) Juveniles in custody are informed that they will be monitored at all times, except when using the toilet.
 - 1. There shall be no viewing devices, such as peep holes or mirrors, of which the juvenile is not aware.
 - 2. This does not apply to surreptitious and legally obtained recorded interrogations.
- (e) Juveniles shall have reasonable access to toilets and wash basins. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1143.)
- (f) Food shall be provided if a juvenile has not eaten within the past four hours or is otherwise in need of nourishment, including any special diet required for the health of the juvenile. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1143.)
- (g) Juveniles shall have reasonable access to a drinking fountain or water. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1143.)
- (h) Juveniles shall have reasonable opportunities to stand and stretch, particularly if handcuffed or restrained in any way.
- (i) Juveniles shall have privacy during family, guardian and/or lawyer visits. (Cal.

Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1143.)

- (j) Juveniles shall be permitted to remain in their personal clothing unless the clothing is taken as evidence or is otherwise unsuitable or inadequate for continued wear while in custody. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1143.)
- (k) Blankets shall be provided as reasonably necessary. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1143.)
 - 1. The supervisor should ensure there is an adequate supply of clean blankets.
- (l) Adequate shelter, heat, light and ventilation should be provided without compromising security or enabling escape.
- (m) Juveniles shall have adequate furnishings, including suitable chairs or benches.
- (n) Juveniles shall have the right to the same number of telephone calls as an adult in temporary custody.
- (o) No discipline may be administered to any juvenile, nor may juveniles be subjected to corporal or unusual punishment, humiliation or mental abuse. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)

312.9 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES

Juvenile offenders may be handcuffed in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. A juvenile offender may be handcuffed at DSH when the juvenile presents a heightened risk. However, non-offenders and status offenders should not be handcuffed unless they are combative or threatening. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)

Other restraints shall only be used after less restrictive measures have failed and with the approval of the Watch Commander. Restraints shall only be used so long as it reasonably appears necessary for the juvenile's protection or the protection of others. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)

Juveniles in restraints shall be kept away from other unrestrained juveniles or monitored in such a way as to protect the juvenile from abuse. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1142.)

312.10 PERSONAL PROPERTY

The officer taking custody of a juvenile offender or status offender at DSH shall ensure a thorough search of the juvenile's property is made and all property is removed from the juvenile, especially those items that could compromise safety, such as pens, pencils and belts.

The personal property of a juvenile should be placed in a property bag. The property should be inventoried in the juvenile's presence and sealed into the bag. The property should be kept in a monitored or secure location until the juvenile is released from the custody of DSH.

312.11 SECURE CUSTODY

Only juvenile offenders 14 years of age or older may be placed in secure custody. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 207; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1145.) Watch Commander approval is required before placing a juvenile offender in secure custody.

Secure custody should only be used for juvenile offenders when there is a reasonable belief that the juvenile is a serious risk of harm to him/herself or others. Factors to be considered when determining if the juvenile offender presents a serious security risk to him/herself or others include the following:

- (a) Age, maturity and delinquent history
- (b) Severity of offense for which the juvenile was taken into custody
- (c) The juvenile offender's behavior
- (d) Availability of staff to provide adequate supervision or protection of the juvenile offender
- (e) Age, type and number of other individuals in custody at the facility (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1145.)

Employees of DSH shall not use secure custody for convenience when non-secure custody is, or later becomes, a reasonable option. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, §1145.)

When practicable and when no locked enclosure is available, handcuffing one hand of a juvenile offender to a fixed object while otherwise maintaining the juvenile in non-secure custody should be considered as the method of secure custody. An employee must be present at all times to ensure the juvenile's safety while secured to a stationary object. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1148.)

Juveniles shall not be secured to a stationary object for more than 60 minutes. Supervisor approval is required to secure a juvenile to a stationary object for longer than 60 minutes and every 30 minutes thereafter. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1148.) Supervisor approval should be documented.

The decision for securing a minor to a stationary object for longer than 60 minutes and every 30 minutes thereafter shall be based upon the best interests of the juvenile offender. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1148.)

312.11.1 LOCKED ENCLOSURES

A thorough inspection of the area shall be conducted before placing a juvenile into the enclosure. A second inspection shall be conducted after removing the juvenile. Any damage noted to the room should be photographed and documented in the crime report.

The following requirements shall apply to a juvenile offender who is held inside a locked enclosure:

- (a) The juvenile shall constantly be monitored by an audio/video system during the entire custody.
- (b) Juveniles shall have constant auditory access to DSH employees. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1147.)
- (c) Initial placement into and removal from a locked enclosure shall be logged. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 207.1, subd. (d).)
- (d) Unscheduled safety checks to provide for the health and welfare of the

juvenile by a DSH employee, no less than once every 15 minutes, shall occur. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 207.1, subd. (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, §§ 1147, 1151.)

1. All safety checks shall be logged.
 2. The safety check should involve questioning the juvenile as to his/her well-being (sleeping juveniles or apparently sleeping juveniles should be awakened).
 3. Requests or concerns of the juvenile should be logged.
- (e) Males and females shall not be placed in the same locked room. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1147.)
- (f) Juvenile offenders should be separated according to severity of the crime (e.g., felony or misdemeanor).
- (g) Restrained juveniles shall not be mixed in a cell or room with unrestrained juveniles.

312.12 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY OF A JUVENILE

The Watch Commander will ensure procedures are in place to address the suicide attempt, death or serious injury of any juvenile held at DSH. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, §§ 1142, 1047). The procedures will address:

- (a) Immediate notification of the on-duty supervisor, Hospital Police Chief and investigations supervisor.
- (b) Notification of the parent, guardian or person standing in loco parentis, of the juvenile.
- (c) Notification of the appropriate prosecutor.
- (d) Notification of the State attorney.
- (e) Notification to the coroner.
- (f) Notification of the juvenile court.
- (g) In the case of a death, providing a report to the Attorney General under Government Code section 12525 within 10 calendar days of the death, and forwarding the same report to the Board of State and Community Corrections within the same time frame. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 15, § 1046.)
- (h) A medical and operational review of deaths and suicide attempts pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 1046.
- (i) Evidence preservation.

312.13 INTERVIEWING OR INTERROGATING JUVENILE SUSPECTS

No interview or interrogation of a juvenile should occur unless the juvenile has the apparent capacity to consent, and does consent to an interview or interrogation.

Prior to conducting a custodial interrogation, including the waiver of *Miranda* rights, an officer shall permit a juvenile 15 years of age or younger to consult with legal counsel in person, by telephone or by video conference. The consultation may not be waived by the juvenile. The requirement to consult with legal counsel does not apply when (Welf. & Inst. Code § 625.6):

- (a) Information is necessary to protect life or property from an imminent threat.
 - (b) The questions are limited to what is reasonably necessary to obtain the
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information relating to the threat.

312.13.1 MANDATORY RECORDINGS OF JUVENILES

Any interrogation of an individual under 18 years of age who is in custody and suspected of committing murder shall be audio and video recorded when the interview takes place at a DSH facility, jail, detention facility or other fixed place of detention. The recording shall include the entire interview and a Miranda advisement preceding the interrogation (Pen. Code § 859.5).

This recording is not mandatory when (Pen. Code § 859.5):

- (a) Recording is not feasible because of exigent circumstances that are later documented in a report.
- (b) The individual refuses to have the interrogation recorded, including a refusal any time during the interrogation, and the refusal is documented in a report. If feasible, the refusal shall be electronically recorded.

- (c) The custodial interrogation occurred in another state by law enforcement officers of that state, unless the interrogation was conducted with the intent to avoid the requirements of Pen. Code § 859.5.
- (d) The interrogation occurs when no employee conducting the interrogation has a reason to believe that the individual may have committed murder. Continued custodial interrogation concerning that offense shall be electronically recorded if the interrogating employee develops a reason to believe the individual committed murder.
- (e) The interrogation would disclose the identity of a confidential informant or would jeopardize the safety of an officer, the individual being interrogated or another individual. Such circumstances shall be documented in a report.
- (f) A recording device fails despite reasonable maintenance and the timely repair or replacement is not feasible.
- (g) The questions are part of a routine processing or booking, and are not an interrogation.
- (h) The suspect is in custody for murder and the interrogation is unrelated to a murder. However, if any information concerning a murder is mentioned during the interrogation, the remainder of the interrogation shall be recorded.

These recordings shall be retained until a conviction is final and all direct and habeas corpus appeals are exhausted, a court no longer has any jurisdiction over the individual or the prosecution for that offense is barred (Pen. Code § 859.5; Welf.& Inst. Code § 626.8).

312.14 FORMAL BOOKING

No juvenile offender shall be formally booked without the authorization of the arresting officer's supervisor, or in his/her absence, the Watch Commander.

Any juvenile, 14 years of age or older, who is taken into custody for a felony, or any juvenile whose acts amount to a sex crime, shall be booked, fingerprinted and

photographed.

For all other acts defined as crimes, juveniles may be booked, fingerprinted or photographed upon the approval from the Watch Commander or investigations supervisor, giving due consideration to the following:

- (a) The gravity of the offense
- (b) The past record of the offender
- (c) The age of the offender

312.15 RELEASE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING JUVENILES

Court decisions and legislation have combined to carefully specify situations in which information may be given out or exchanged when a case involves a juvenile. DSH employees shall not divulge any information regarding juveniles unless they are certain of the legal authority to do so.

A copy of the current policy of the juvenile court concerning authorized release of information and appropriate acknowledgment forms shall be kept with copies of this procedure in the DSH/OPS Policy Manual. Such releases are authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code section 827.

Welfare and Institutions Code section 828 authorizes the release of certain information to other agencies. It shall be the responsibility of the Records Manager and the appropriate Investigations supervisors to ensure that DSH employees act within legal guidelines.

**312.16 BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS
CERTIFICATION IF APPLICABLE**

The Chief of Law Enforcement or designee shall coordinate the procedures related to the custody of juveniles held at DSH and ensure any required certification is maintained. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 210.2.)

312.17 RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION

Juveniles have the right to the same religious accommodation as adults in temporary custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).