

Conservatee Escorting

13006.1 CONSERVATEE ESCORTING

(a) Facility Pick-up

1. Firearms are not permitted inside any mental health unit.
2. Patients are never on or off loaded at a hospital without hospital staff being present.
3. Hospital Staff will escort all patients to and from Sheriff Department Vehicles.
 - i. Officers will exit the vehicle and ensure the safety of hospital staff, the officers and patients.
4. Patients will be secured in the vehicle and restrained if necessary.
 - i. High risk patients or patients that are restrained by their facility prior to the transportation team's arrival will remain restrained while in Sheriff's Department care.
5. Sheriff's personnel have the discretion to refuse transportation of any patient they believe to be unsafe to the officers, themselves or other patients.

(b) Arrival at Court

1. Upon arrival at the Central Justice Center, the team will notify the Detention Deputy and park their vehicle inside the bus bay.
 - i. All loading and unloading of patients will be done inside the secured bus bay.
 - ii. If necessary an alternate unloading site may be determined by the Detention Deputy.
 - iii. Patients will be escorted by both team members to the courtroom using the south elevators.

(c) Courtroom / Holding Area

1. The lead officer will inspect the holding room for any unauthorized items as well as inspect the locks on both doors of the holding room.
 - i. The Bailiff assigned to C-9 will also inspect the holding room at the beginning and end of each shift.
2. It is the responsibility of the transportation team to respond to all incidents inside the holding area and in the courtroom concerning the patient.
3. The Bailiff assigned to C-9 will be responsible for viewing the patients on the video monitors located on the bailiff's desk.
 - i. In the event the Bailiff must leave, they should have a member of the transportation team watch the monitors.

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4. In addition to the Bailiff, there will always be at least one member of the Conservatee Team in the courtroom during hearings.
 5. Attorneys or Doctors wanting to enter the patient holding area shall request and receive permission from Sheriff's Department personnel prior to making entry.
 6. At no time shall a patient be escorted from the holding room without Sheriff's Department personnel present to assist.
 7. Only one patient will be escorted into the courtroom at a time.
 - i. If a judge orders more than one patient into the courtroom an additional officer/Deputy will be requested.
 8. At the conclusion of the court hearing, the transportation team will perform a head count of all the patients in the holding room. The head count will be compared to the transportation log prior to escorting the patients back to the bus bay.
 9. Patients will be recounted again as they are loaded into the Sheriff's vehicle inside the bus bay.
- (d) Patient Released from Court
1. At the direction of the court, a patient whose voluntary hold has been terminated may be released from court. In addition to the procedures in CCOM Section 11002.7 – Releasing Inmates, the officer will:
 - i. Receive a copy of the signed order from the court requiring the release.
 - ii. The officer will note the release on the transportation log as "Released from Court".
 - iii. The officer will contact the facility which housed the patient.
 - iv. Direct the patient or the patients support person back to the hospital to check them out.
- (e) Medical Aids
1. For details refer to CCOM Section 11004.1 – Medical Emergency Procedures.
- (f) Escapes / Attempted Escapes
1. The conservatee transportation team may pursue a patient if the team member is in uniform and there is a criminal want for the person. If a foot pursuit is initiated, officers will follow the guidelines in OCSD Policy Manual (Lexipol) Section 458 – Foot Pursuit.