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## General Treatment of Youth

### 1033.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose is to establish and implement written policy and procedures regarding the general treatment of youth by juvenile facility staff. This policy applies to all juvenile facility staff.

### 1033.2 AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

- Board of State and Community Corrections Title 15 § 1324

### 1033.3 POLICY

Juvenile facility staff shall treat all youth with respect and consideration for their physical, psychological and emotional wellbeing. All youth shall have fair and equal access to all available services, placement, care, treatment, and benefits. No youth shall be subject to discrimination or harassment on the basis of actual or perceived race, ethnic group identification, ancestry, national origin, immigration status, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, mental or physical disability, or HIV status.

### 1033.4 STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Juvenile facility staff have a primary responsibility to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all youth. It is critical that staff interact with youth in a manner that is not demeaning or insensitive.

Juvenile facility staff have a concurrent responsibility to supervise and control the behavior of youth, thus ensuring the safety and security of the facility. However, even under the most difficult of circumstances, such as an incident involving a hostile, acting-out youth, staff shall take all reasonable steps to minimize the negative impact upon the youth's personal dignity.

#### 1033.4.1 TREATMENT OF YOUTH

Juvenile facility staff shall adhere to the following guidelines regarding the treatment of youth:

- (a) Refrain from using abusive, offensive and/or foul language. There is no justification for verbal abuse.
- (b) Maintain a professional relationship with youth. Juvenile facility staff are authority figures who shall ensure youth adhere to behavioral expectations. However, staff shall be viewed by youth as fair, reasonable and caring professionals.
- (c) Perform their duties in a fair, reasonable and caring manner so as to avoid the appearance of or actual partiality.
- (d) Refrain from taking advantage of their position of authority.

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# Riverside County Probation Department

Policy Manual

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