

Request for Psychological Evaluation of Juveniles

511.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

To set forth the guidelines and procedures for requesting a psychological evaluation for juveniles. This policy applies to all deputy probation officers.

511.2 AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

- Executive Committee

511.3 POLICY

Requests for psychological evaluations may be submitted by a deputy probation officer when a minor has exhibited extremely unusual, violent, bizarre, suicidal or deviant sexual behavior and the evaluation will contribute to the appropriate disposition and/or placement of that minor. Psychological evaluations may also be ordered by the court.

511.4 PROCEDURE

- (a) Authorization/Order
 1. If the court has authorized or ordered a psychological evaluation, attach a copy of the court order to the referral.
 2. If the court has not authorized or ordered a psychological evaluation, submit an ex-parte request to the court. If approved, attach the signed order to the referral.
- (b) Referral for Psychological Evaluation
 1. The assigned deputy fills out the referral form completely, and submits the form to the unit supervisor and the Division Director, or designee for approval. Include sufficient information so the reader will clearly understand why an evaluation is requested. Each Division shall process the referral directly with the approved local Psychologist.
 2. The referral shall include the following:
 - (a) A brief description of the current offense, current court status or disposition, or if minor is under supervision in the community shall be included.
 - (b) In the second paragraph, describe the offense or behavior that prompts the request for the evaluation. Some placement facilities require a psychological evaluation for screening. If that is the reason for the request, a statement to that affect shall be made.
 - (c) List and describe any specific concerns the deputy wants addressed in the third paragraph. Such as, but are not limited to, potential for violence, danger to the public, suitability for community-based treatment, placement

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outside of the home and intellectual function and ability. If placement is indicated, the psychologist shall make an assessment as to services the minor needs and the likelihood that the minor may re-offend due to an emotional or mental problem.

(d) Include a brief description of any significant behavior problems, the family social history, school information, and behavior in Juvenile Hall.

(e) A current court report, if available.

3. Mental Health Evaluation

(a) If the minor is a ward of the court and placement has been ordered, the following statement will be made on the referral: "Authorized by Mental Health Testing Order of the Court filed 1/30/88."

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05/08/1996

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