

Hostages

918.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose is to establish and implement written facility-specific policy and procedures in the event of a hostage situation. This policy applies to all juvenile facility staff.

918.2 AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

- Board of State and Community Corrections Title 15, Article 3, § 1327;
- Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 209, 210, & 885.

918.3 POLICY

Every reasonable precaution shall be taken to ensure the safety of individuals and property in the event of a hostage situation.

918.4 REQUIREMENTS

A written facility-specific procedure shall be available in each juvenile facility which specifies the action to be taken in the event of a hostage situation.

Each facility-specific procedure shall be based on the unique characteristics and layout of that particular juvenile facility.

Each juvenile facility shall advise staff, youth and visitors that hostages shall not be recognized for purposes of bargaining. The purpose of the notification is to discourage attempts at taking hostages. However, everything possible shall be done to resolve a hostage situation without injury to anyone.

918.5 STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Staff in the immediate area shall remain calm.

If a staff member or youth is taken hostage, immediately take the following steps:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

All staff involved shall prepare incident reports in the Juvenile and Adult Management System (JAMS) after the situation has been resolved, outlining all actions taken with specific information as to how the situation developed and how it concluded. Identify all persons/agencies involved.

918.5.1 IN THE EVENT OF A HOSTAGE SITUATION

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Survival hints for hostages:

- (a) A hostage is an instrument, a focal point, a symbol;
- (b) A hostage is a benefit to a captor when alive;
- (c) The primary goal of the hostage should be to stay alive;
- (d) Do not feel guilty for the desire to live;
- (e) Keep cool;
- (f) Cooperate with the captor without interfering with law enforcement;
- (g) Help reduce the captor's anxiety and tension;
- (h) Go along with reasonable demands;
- (i) Listen to the captor (what is the motive?). Try to understand what their point of view is and accept it;
- (j) Find things to like about the captor; and
- (k) Establish your value and the captor's value as human beings.

918.6 DUTY OFFICER (DO) RESPONSIBILITIES

The DO shall respond by means of the following:

- (a) Notify law enforcement (9) 911 that a hostage situation exists [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- (b) Immediately notify the facility manager(s) in person or via telephone;
- (c) The facility manager(s) shall notify the Chief Deputy Probation Officer (CDPO) for Institutions. If the facility manager(s) are not available, the DO shall notify the CDPO for Institutions;
- (d) Assess the situation and assign staff to secure facility functions during the emergency; and
- (e) Ensure at least one telephone line is designated for emergency use only and shall remain free until the situation is resolved.

While waiting for law enforcement to arrive, the DO shall:

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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