

Contact with Youth by Outside Agency Personnel and Other Individuals

969.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose is to establish and implement written policy and procedures regarding contact with youth by outside agency personnel and other individuals. This policy applies to all juvenile facility staff.

969.2 AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

- Executive Committee;
- Juvenile Facility Services Policies: Reporting of Incidents and Other Information & Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003;
- Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003.

969.3 POLICY

All juvenile facility staff have an affirmative responsibility to protect all detained youth from any form of abusive behavior from any person who may have a reason and/or opportunity to make contact with them.

969.4 STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

All juvenile facility staff shall be responsible for the health, safety and welfare of all youth from the moment they enter the juvenile facility until they are released.

Only a duty officer (DO), supervising probation officer (SPO) or above shall authorize any contact between a youth and any non-staff person, unless the youth is in need of emergency medical care.

969.4.1 PREA ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Prior to entering a juvenile facility, all visitors shall sign in on the visitor's log and acknowledge the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) zero tolerance policy by checking the box on the visitor's log. Refer to Juvenile Facility Services Policy: Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003.

969.4.2 STAFF RESPONSE

If at any time, a staff observes or becomes aware that a detained youth is being subjected to any form of abusive behavior, including physical, sexual, psychological or verbal abuse, the staff shall make every reasonable effort to ensure the abusive behavior is discontinued. This applies no matter who is inflicting the abuse, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Other youth;
- (b) Other staff;
- (c) Law enforcement officers;
- (d) Representatives of other agencies;

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- (e) Contract employees;
- (f) Visitors;
- (g) Volunteers; and
- (h) Parents/legal guardians.

Staff shall immediately report to the DO any incident involving abusive behavior, including physical, sexual, psychological, verbal abuse or suspected abuse inflicted upon a youth of which they have knowledge. Any reported incidents shall be documented in accordance with Juvenile Facility Services Policy: Reporting of Incidents and Other Information.

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