KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Detentions Bureau
Policies and Procedures

TITLE: **MENTALLY DISORDERED/DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED INCARCERATED PERSONS** **C-250**

EFFECTIVE:	REVIEWED:	REVISED:	UPDATED:
January 27, 2003	07-11-24		07-11-24

APPROVED BY: Detentions Bureau Chief Deputy Cindy Cisneros

REFERENCE: Title 15, Section 1052, 1057

POLICY

This policy is intended to provide guidelines for the identification, evaluation, and segregation of incarcerated people who are suspected of suffering from mental disorders and/or developmental disabilities for the purpose of protecting such incarcerated people from self-harm or victimization. Separation, as used in this section, does not indicate the use of a Safety Cell unless the incarcerated person's actual behavior indicates the need for a Safety Cell as described in the provisions of Section C-100 of this manual.

Any Staff Member who becomes aware of an incarcerated person who appears to be suffering from any type of mental disorder or developmental disability will separate the incarcerated person from the general incarcerated person population, if necessary to protect the incarcerated person. Staff will refer the incarcerated person to Medical and Behavioral Health Staff for evaluation as soon as possible. When separating an incarcerated person under the provisions of this section, Staff will advise the Shift Supervisor and generate a JMS Incident describing the incarcerated person's behavior that indicated the need for separation.

The care of incarcerated people with mental disorders or developmental disabilities will be the responsibility of the Behavioral Health Staff and the Medical Staff. Behavioral Health will coordinate with Classification to arrange appropriate housing for such incarcerated people.

When any incarcerated person is determined to be developmentally disabled, the Correctional Behavioral Health Staff will notify Kern Regional Center within 24 hours. When an incarcerated person is determined to be mentally disordered, a physician's opinion will be secured within 24 hours of identification or at the next daily sick call, whichever is earliest. If a physician's opinion is not available, an incarcerated person may be considered mentally disordered for the purposes of this policy if the incarcerated person appears to be a danger to themselves or others or appears gravely disabled. If a physician's opinion cannot be secured within 24 hours, the incarcerated person will be transported to Kern Medical for evaluation.