

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Issue: 26-25

TRAINING BULLETIN

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DETENTIONS BUREAU MANUAL POLICY UPDATE: H-1600 Health and Biometric Monitoring of Incarcerated Persons

The changes below were made to the Detentions Bureau Policies and Procedures Manual (DBPPM) H-1600 Health and Biometric Monitoring of Incarcerated Persons.

Policies are available in the official version of the Detentions Bureau Manual, which is located on the "Detentions Bureau" page of the SharePoint website. In accordance with DBPPM "Maintaining Bureau Policies", any printed copies of the manual will be maintained and updated from this source. The official Detentions Bureau Policy and Procedure Manual may be accessed by clicking on the link below:

[Detentions Bureau - Detention Bureau Manual](#)

Please note: This bulletin provides a summary of the revisions to the listed policy. Please review the whole policy to ensure that you are familiar with the changes.

Policy Highlights

Section H-1600 Health and Biometric Monitoring of Incarcerated Persons has been updated:

DEFINITION

Qualified Health Care Professional (QHP): A licensed medical provider authorized to assess and treat incarcerated individuals.

Suicide Watch: A high-level suicide prevention measure requiring safety checks at random intervals, at least twice every thirty (30) minutes, and not to exceed 15 minutes between safety checks documented on a log for individuals presenting immediate and high risk of self-harm (e.g., engaging in self-injurious behaviors or threatening suicide with a specific plan). Suicide Watch also includes directives from Correctional Behavioral Health (CBH) that may place the incarcerated person in a safety smock, limit allowable property, and dictate housing, such as a safety cell or a suicide-resistant observation cell, if necessary to ensure the safety of the incarcerated person. Individuals on suicide watch may also be placed on constant observation for their safety.

Suicide Precaution: A precautionary measure involving safety checks at random intervals at least once every thirty (30) minutes documented in a logbook for individuals assessed to be at a moderate risk of self-harm (e.g., expressing a wish to die without a specific plan, recent/prior history of self-injurious behaviors, or exhibiting significant risk factors). Safety Precautions should be carried out in suicide resistant observation cells.

When an alert is observed, the staff will:

- If the monitoring staff are able to respond (e.g., infirmary deputy), they shall respond directly to the incarcerated person's cell and determine if there is a medical emergency.
- If staff are unable to respond or the alert occurs in another location (e.g., control staff or Infirmary Staff observes alert in receiving) immediately announce over the radio: "Medical Bracelet Alert, (Cell/Location).
- In the event of a medical emergency, the responding deputy shall broadcast a "Medical Priority" in the cell where the emergency is occurring and request the response of QHPs and additional sworn staff if needed.
- If the deputy determines that there is not an emergency and there are no medical concerns with the incarcerated person, a QHP shall be consulted with and the deputy, at the direction of the QHP, shall reset the alert on the tablet or other monitoring device using the "Reset Alert" button.

PROCEDURE E: INCARCERATED PERSON MOVEMENT

When an incarcerated person with a monitoring bracelet is transported outside of an approved housing location, (i.e., court, visiting, scheduled off-site appointments, etc.), they will not be monitored. The monitoring bracelet will reconnect once the incarcerated person returns to the assigned housing unit.

Deputies will coordinate with medical staff to determine whether an incarcerated person scheduled for a medical appointment needs to have the bracelet removed prior to transport (e.g., surgical procedures, diagnostic imaging that restrict electronic devices, or appointments likely to result in hospital admission).

The updated policy can be accessed via the hyperlink below:

- [H-1600 Health and Biometric Monitoring](#)

By acknowledging this training bulletin, you indicate that you have read and understand the contents of this training bulletin and DBPPM H-1600. All sworn personnel in the Deputy Sheriff and Detentions Deputy ranks assigned this bulletin are required to review and acknowledge this training bulletin by **Friday, June 5, 2026**.