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## Safety and Sobering Cells

### 503.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the requirement for placing inmates into safety cells or sobering cells.

#### 503.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Safety cell** - An enhanced protective housing designed to minimize the risk of injury or destruction of property used for inmates who display behavior that reveals intent to cause physical harm to themselves or others or to destroy property.

**Sobering cell** - A holding cell designed to minimize the risk of injury by falling or dangerous behavior. It is used as an initial sobering place for arrestees or inmates who are a threat to their own safety or the safety of others as a result of being intoxicated from any substance, and who require a protected environment to prevent injury or victimization by other inmates.

### 503.2 POLICY

This facility will employ the use of safety and sobering cells to protect inmates from injury or to prevent the destruction of property by an inmate in accordance with applicable law.

A sobering or safety cell shall not be used as punishment or as a substitute for treatment.

### 503.3 SAFETY CELL PROCEDURES

Placement and use of Safety Cells may be done under the direction of the designated facility physician, Watch Commander or Facility Manager. In no case shall a Safety Cell be used for punishment or as a substitute treatment.

If an inmate is placed in a safety cell, medical staff will be notified within an hour of placement, or at the earliest opportunity. In any case when a Safety Cell placement is initiated, a Jail Incident Report shall be written documenting the incident or statements justifying the placement.

Continued retention in a Safety Cell shall be reviewed a minimum of every four hours by the Watch Commander. A medical assessment shall be completed within a maximum of 6 hours of placement in a Safety Cell or at the next daily sick call, whichever is earliest. Each Safety Cell Placement shall be medically cleared for continued retention in a safety cell every 6 hours. A mental health opinion on placement shall be secured within 12 hours of placement; retention shall be reviewed every 12 hours. Direct visual observation of a Safety Cell placement shall take place a minimum of twice every 30 minutes with no more than 15 minutes between each check and will be documented with the PIPE along with the door check sheet. All cell moves and unusual events shall be recorded on the door check sheet.

Proper nutrition and hydration shall not be withheld and will be provided at each meal.

Supplemental fluids shall be offered at least every two (2) hours and is provided upon request. Clothing may be exchanged for a safety garment. In certain instances, issuance of a safety

# Shasta County Sheriff's Office

Shasta County SO Custody Manual

## *Safety and Sobering Cells*

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garment or any clothing can jeopardize the inmates' safety or security of the facility. The safety of the inmate and facility should be taken into consideration when considering clothing options. There shall be only one inmate per safety cell. Inmates that qualify for Safety Cell placement are those who are a danger to themselves, a danger to other inmates and staff, or those who display a behavior which results in destruction of property or reveals an intent to cause physical harm to self or others. When a Safety Cell placement is determined to require the diagnosis of a mental health facility due to a mental disorder, Medical will be alerted to assist with the scheduling and treatment of a mental health evaluation at/by Shasta Mental Health pursuant to 4011.6 PC or 4011.8 PC. When it is determined an individual no longer fits the criteria requiring placement in a Safety Cell, communication should take place with medical staff and the Watch Commander to initiate a step down process or return to general population.

Use of the Medical Safety Cell in the medical wing is generally designated for those Safety Cell placements in need of some medical triage. In those cases of need due to capacity levels, the Medical Safety Cell can be used as a regular Safety Cell.

Inmates that have a mobility-disability e.g., prosthetic device, shall receive reasonable accommodation by both custody and medical staff prior to being placed in the safety cell.

### **503.4 SOBERING CELL PROCEDURES**

A sobering cell shall be used for the holding of inmates who are a threat to their own safety or the safety of others due to their level of intoxication. Such inmates shall be removed from sobering cell placement as they are able to continue in the processing. Intoxicated arrestees will be placed in a sobering cell with a minimum of two (2) direct visual observation cell checks within each thirty (30) minutes, with no more than 15 minutes between each check. All checks are to be recorded with the PIPE by pressing the PIPE to the button at the door. All cell moves and unusual events shall be recorded on the door check sheet. Sobering Cell observations should be done under the supervision of both medical and custody staff. A medical evaluation shall be performed by Medical Staff, after four (4) hours of placement in a sobering cell. These inmates will be removed from this classification when they are able to continue with processing. Except as specified, all intakes on the Booking Level will have a minimum 30 minute cell check. Highly intoxicated/violent intakes may be placed in a Safety Cell with the Watch Commander's authorization prior to, or immediately after, cell placement. Medical staff shall also be notified immediately after safety cell placement. A minimum of two (2) direct visual observation checks shall be recorded with the PIPE within each thirty (30) minutes. These checks should vary and not be done on a routine schedule.

No more than 15 minutes is to elapse between each check. All cell moves and unusual events shall be recorded on the door check sheet. A Jail Incident Report shall be written on all Safety Cell placements.