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**North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization, LLC**

Section 1700 – Crisis Services: DCR Coordination with Jails for Involuntary Evaluation Needs

Authorizing Source: DCR protocols

Approved by: Executive Director Date: 9/4/2019

Signature:

**POLICY # 1729.00**

**SUBJECT: DESIGNATED CRISIS RESPONDER (DCR) COORDINATION WITH JAILS FOR INVOLUNTARY EVALUATION NEEDS**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure consistent coordination between DCRs and jails for individuals needing involuntary evaluations in accordance with Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 71.05 and 10.77.

**POLICY**

This policy provides procedures for DCRs working with the jails when there are requests from the jails to provide an Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) evaluation.

The DCR does not rule out any referral for investigation solely because the person is incarcerated. Persons in a jail or prison who have a mental disorder or substance use disorder (SUD) can be detained to an evaluation and treatment facility/secure detox facility with, or without, a jail hold if the required criteria below are met.

Only individuals who are eligible for release from the jail can be detained to a facility.

**PROCEDURE**

1. When the jail is requesting an ITA evaluation, not pursuant a court order, for inmates eligible for release, the jail professional will contact North Sound BH-ASO's Delegate at 1-800-747-8654. North Sound BH-ASO's Delegate will gather information to determine the basis for the DCR request.
2. The North Sound BH-ASO's Delegate will contact the DCR on call in the county in the jail's jurisdiction. Care Crisis will pass the case to the DCR as a non-emergent dispatch. The DCR will then contact the jail to gather pertinent information to determine if a face-to-face investigation is warranted. The DCR may request the jail fax court orders directly to the DCR office. Information needed will include, but is not limited to:
  - a. The individual's criminal charges status (felony or misdemeanor);
  - b. Release date;
  - c. Jail hold (if any); and
  - d. Jail or prison's policy regarding release, current behavior and medication administration.
3. If an investigation is requested for an incarcerated person, upon completion of competency evaluation/restoration under RCW 10.77 (Mentally Ill Offender [MIO]) an evaluation shall be conducted of such person under RCW 71.05 and 10.77.065(1)(b). To the extent possible, the DCR, upon request of the correctional facility, will conduct the investigation shortly before the person's

scheduled release date or when the correctional facility has the authority to release the person if the detention criteria are met (RCW 10.77.065).

4. If an investigation is warranted, the DCR will make arrangements with the jail to evaluate the inmate for involuntary mental health/substance use treatment prior to release from confinement. The DCR will inform the jail/jail professional of the results of the investigation. If the DCR decides a detention under RCW 71.05 is necessary, the DCR will coordinate the process with correction staff and other representatives of the legal system as needed.
5. The DCR will discuss arrangements for transportation to the nearest emergency department for medical clearance and for transportation of the inmate.
6. If the result of the investigation is a decision not to detain, the DCR may offer some recommendations to the jail professional prior to the release of the inmate.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

None