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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, RCW 71.05, 10.77

Approved by: Executive Director Date: 12/13/2022

Signature:

POLICY # 1729.00

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

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy provides procedures for DCRs when there are requests from the jails to provide an Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) evaluation in accordance with Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 71.05 and 10.77.

POLICY

DCRs do not rule out any referral for investigation solely because an individual is incarcerated. Individuals in a jail or prison who have a mental health or substance use disorder (SUD) can be detained to an evaluation and treatment (E&T) facility or Secure Withdrawal Management 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 to a court order, for individuals eligible for release, the jail professional will contact North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization's (North Sound BH-ASO's) for Regional Crisis Line (RCL) Delegate. North Sound BH-ASO's RCL will gather information for a referral to the DCR office for response.
2. North Sound BH-ASO's RCL will refer the case to the DCR office in the county in the jail's jurisdiction as a non-emergent dispatch. The DCR office will then contact the jail to gather pertinent information to determine if an investigation is warranted. The DCR may request the jail to provide 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 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. 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 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