



Monterey County Behavioral Health Policy and Procedure

Policy Number	310
Policy Title	Contact With The News Media
References	Policy No. 301 Consent To Photograph
Form	None
Effective	October 01, 2008

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Policy

The Behavioral Health Administration is solely responsible for the release of public information and outreach with the news media concerning this department. Any and all inquiries should be referred to the Program Managers. No statements, letters, or phone interviews will be held by staff and the news media.

Procedure

Staff should refer any media inquiries to the appropriate Program Manager. Courtesy should be extended to the media but no statements will be provided to them except by the Program Managers. Under no circumstances will staff provide any information regarding consumers to the media. No filming of the interior of the office will be allowed as it may inadvertently violate a consumers' right to privacy (Policy No. 301). If the consumer relinquishes their right to privacy, the interview can be conducted outside the facility unless instructed otherwise by the Program Manager.