



Monterey County Behavioral Health Policy and Procedure

Policy Number	334
Policy Title	Staff Designated for Involuntary Holds
References	California (CA) Welfare and Institutions Code (W&I), Division 5 County of Monterey Board of Supervisors Resolution No: 81-257 California Code of Regulations, Title IX California Business and Professions Code
Form	Sample 5150 Professional Staff Authorization Card
Effective	May 22, 2014 Revised August 25, 2016

Policy

Monterey County Behavioral Health, in compliance with CA W&I, Division 5 and County of Monterey Board of Supervisors Resolution No: 81-257 establishes the following procedures in order to designate and certify mental health professionals who can initiate involuntary holds (referred to herein as “5150 holds” even though it applies to involuntary holds authorized by W&I 5150 and W&I 5585), with probable cause, for persons who are a danger to themselves, danger to others, and/or gravely disabled due to mental health disorders.

Procedures

- I. Persons authorized to initiate 5150 holds in Monterey County are:
 - a. Peace officers
 - b. All physicians licensed by the Medical Board of California who live in or practice in Monterey County
 - c. Designated Monterey County Behavioral Health (MCBH) mental health professionals
 - d. Designated attending staff of Monterey County designated 5150 facilities:
 - i. Natividad Medical Center (NMC) in Salinas, CA; and
 - ii. Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula (CHOMP) in Monterey, CA
 - e. Other mental health professionals designated by the MCBH Director
- II. MCBH staff, attending staff of Monterey County 5150 facilities, and other mental health professionals eligible to be certified and designated to initiate 5150 holds must hold the following credentials or current licensure/registration (as recognized by their respective governing licensure boards) according to the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors Resolution

31 No: 81-257 and as defined in the California Code of Regulations, Title IX and
32 in the California Business and Professions Code:

- 33 a. Psychiatrist
- 34 b. Psychologist
- 35 c. Social Worker
 - 36 i. Includes:
 - 37 1. Licensed Clinical Social Workers
 - 38 2. Associate Social Workers
 - 39 3. Masters of Social Worker Interns
- 40 d. Nurses
- 41 e. Licensed Vocational Nurse
- 42 f. Psychiatric Technician
- 43 g. Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist
- 44 h. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists
- 45 i. The following mental health professional categories who meet or
46 exceed the specialized mental health training and experience
47 qualifications of the classifications specified in Section II, a-h:
 - 48 i. Certified Nurse Practitioner
 - 49 ii. Physician's Assistant (PA)
 - 50 iii. Psychology Interns
 - 51 iv. Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC)
 - 52 v. Professional Clinical Counselor Interns (PCCI)
 - 53 vi. Professional Clinical Counselor Trainees
 - 54 vii. Marriage and Family Therapy Interns
 - 55 viii. Marriage and Family Therapy Trainees
 - 56 ix. Waivered staff per the California Department of Health Care
57 Services (DHCS)
 - 58 1. Must have an active, current waiver from CA DHCS

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60 III. MCBH mental health professionals, designated attending staff at Monterey
61 County 5150 facilities, and other mental health professionals designated by
62 the MCBH Director must possess current a Monterey County 5150 Hold
63 certification and designation as represented by a 5150 Professional Staff
64 Authorization Card issued within the current calendar year.

- 65 a. In order to be certified and designated to initiate 5150 holds, the
66 mental health professional must successfully complete the MCBH
67 5150 Certification Training, which is currently facilitated by the
68 Patients' Rights Advocate
 - 69 i. Successful completion of the course includes achieving a
70 passing score in a training examination
- 71 b. It is also strongly recommended that the mental health professional
72 has certification from MCBH's Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) certified
73 training from the current calendar year.
- 74 c. Once the mental health professional successfully completes the MCBH
75 5150 Certification Training, the MCBH Director will review the
76 professionals' credentials, licensure, and training outcomes.

- 77 d. Based on a satisfactory review, the MCBH Director will approve
78 designation of the mental health professional as one who can initiate
79 5150 holds in Monterey County
- 80 e. The mental health professional will be issued a numbered 5150
81 Professional Staff Authorization Card identifying them as designated to
82 initiate 5150 holds in Monterey County.
- 83 f. Discontinuation of involuntary holds:
84 i. Only a board certified psychiatrist can discontinue involuntary
85 holds. A board certified psychiatrist must document their
86 decision based on an in-person or tele assessment.
87
- 88 IV. The MCBH Director and Patients' Rights Advocate will continually monitor
89 5150 holds initiated by designated mental health professionals to ensure that
90 5150 holds are in compliance with pertinent statutes and regulations.
- 91 a. If a designated mental health professional's 5150 holds are satisfactory
92 and in compliance with pertinent statutes and regulations, the MCBH
93 Director may renew their 5150 designation for the following calendar
94 year.
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- 96 V. The MCBH Director can revoke, at any time, a designated mental health
97 professional's 5150 Professional Staff Authorization Card. Once revoked, the
98 mental health professional can no longer initiate 5150 holds within Monterey
99 County.
- 100 a. The revocation will take effect immediately.
101 b. The Patients' Rights Advocate will be informed immediately of the
102 revocation.
103 c. The mental health professional will be informed as soon as reasonably
104 possible of the revocation of their 5150 Professional Authorization
105 Card.