

Visiting

968.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose is to establish and implement written policy and procedures for visiting that include provisions for special visits for youth in Juvenile facilities. This policy applies to all juvenile facility staff.

968.2 AUTHORITY AND REFERENCES

- Board of State and Community Corrections Title 15, Article 6, § 1374;
- Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 209, 210, 871.5 and 885.

968.3 POLICY

Youth shall be allowed to receive visits by parents, guardians or persons standing in loco parentis, and the youth's children. Other family members, such as grandparents and siblings, and supportive adults, may be allowed to visit with the approval of the duty officer (DO)/supervising probation officer (SPO) or facility manager(s) and in conjunction with the youth's case plan or in the best interest of the youth. Provision for special visits, in addition to the 2-hour minimum and or outside of the regular visiting hours, shall be accommodated as necessary and with the discretion of the facility manager(s).

968.4 REQUIREMENTS

All visits shall occur at reasonable times, subject only to the limitations necessary to maintain order and security. Regular visiting shall be for a minimum of two hours per week; visiting hours shall be determined by each juvenile facility. The facility may provide access to technology as an alternative, but not as a replacement, to in-person visiting.

968.5 VISITING RULES

Visitors shall have a valid identification card before being allowed to visit. All visitors shall pass through a metal detector and/or be searched via a hand-held metal detector (wand).

No personal items shall be allowed into the juvenile facility, except a locker key and an identification card. Lockers shall be available for visitors to store personal items.

Visitation shall not be denied solely based on the visitor's criminal history. The DO or designee, shall determine in each case, whether the visitor's criminal history represents a risk to the safety of youth or staff in the facility. Any denial of visitation, or limitation, on visitations shall be communicated to the youth, person denied, and facility administrator.

Authorized visitors shall include: the youth's parents, guardians or persons standing in loco parentis, the youth's children, probation-approved and court-authorized individuals. Any other individuals shall require authorization from the duty officer (DO)/supervising probation officer (SPO) or facility manager(s).

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Visitors shall adhere to the visiting rules and regulations of the juvenile facility. Juvenile facility rules and regulations shall be posted at the visitor's entrance

No personal items shall be brought into the juvenile facility to be given to the youth; this includes hand-delivered mail.

All medication brought into the juvenile facility by parents/legal guardians for a youth shall be given directly to on-site health care staff for approval.

Any person who knowingly brings items described below into a juvenile facility shall be prosecuted under the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 871.5, and may have their visiting privileges taken away:

- (a) Controlled substances (i.e., alcohol beverages, narcotics, drugs, etc.); and
- (b) Firearms, weapons, explosives, tear gas or tear gas weapons.

A sign shall be posted at the entrance of each juvenile facility specifying the conduct prohibited by 871.5 WIC and the penalties.

Any visitor suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance shall not be granted access into the juvenile facility and shall be asked to leave the premises.

Behavior and attire conducive to conducting business within a county building is expected while visiting.

Each juvenile facility shall post the appropriate dress code at the visitor's entrance.

The unit SPO/DO may deny or terminate a visit to ensure the best interest of the youth or the safe and secure operation of the juvenile facility.

Visits shall be supervised by staff, but conversations shall not be monitored unless there is a security or safety need.

Non-contact visits shall be utilized for youth who pose a significant threat to the safety and security of the juvenile facility.

968.6 PROFESSIONAL VISITATION

Professional visits include, but not limited to, appointed legal counsel, clergy, behavioral health, etc. Professional visits for a youth may occur anytime during normal business hours or at other times with prior approval from the unit SPO/DO.

968.7 SPECIAL VISITATION

Only the youth's parents, guardians or persons standing in loco parentis, or the youth's children are authorized to visit on normal visiting days. For all other individuals authorized to visit, a special visit shall be scheduled. Special visits shall be authorized by the unit SPO/DO prior to the visit.

In the event that the youth's parents, guardians or persons standing in loco parentis, or the youth's children cannot visit during normal visiting hours, the unit SPO/DO may authorize a special visit

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to accommodate their needs. Prior to authorization, the unit SPO/DO shall ensure that visitation has not been denied or restricted by any court order. If legal restrictions have been imposed, the unit SPO/DO shall ensure that the staff monitoring the visit is informed and the restrictions are enforced.

Under all other circumstances, special visits shall not be approved for boyfriends, girlfriends, wives or husbands unless authorized by a court order or the facility manager(s).

Special visits by the news media shall only be approved by the facility manager(s).

The following information is necessary to schedule a special visit and shall be documented in the Juvenile Facility Special Visitation Log (attachment):

- (a) Name and client identification number (CID) of the youth;
- (b) Name and relationship of each scheduled visitor;
- (c) Date and time of visit; and,
- (d) Name of SPO/DO approving the visit.

968.8 NO-VISIT TELEPHONE CALLS

If a youth did not receive a visit and the youth's parent(s)/legal guardian(s) cannot afford a telephone call, juvenile facility staff may authorize the youth to make one telephone call via the unit telephone.

968.9 COURT-ORDERED VISITATION

Court-ordered visitation shall be scheduled by the unit SPO/DO on special visiting days.

The unit SPO/DO shall review the youth's minute order to verify who is authorized to visit the youth.

Juvenile facility staff shall document in the client management system under the youth's detention contacts when they receive court-ordered visits.

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Attachments:

1. [Juvenile Facility Special Visitation Log](#)