



# San Diego County Sheriff's Department

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*William D. Gore, Sheriff*

March 9, 2021

Susan N. Youngflesh, Board Chairperson  
Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board  
555 West Beech Street, Suite 505  
San Diego, CA 92101-3819

## **CLERB CASE NUMBER: 20-004**

Dear Chairperson Youngflesh,

The Sheriff's Department welcomes and supports the Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board's (CLERB) independent review of complaints alleging improper actions by members of this organization and in-custody deaths. We continuously strive to respond with professionalism and concern to the citizens we serve and the CLERB process provides invaluable input to that end.

On February 16, 2021, CLERB recommended policy changes related to San Diego County Sheriff's Department Detention's Policy and Procedure Section N.5 *Access to Courts-Attorneys-Legal Advice*, J.4 *Enhanced Observation Housing Definition (EOH) and Use*, and P.9 *Social Visiting*. CLERB specifically recommended the below changes:

- 1. It is recommended that the SDSD update their DSB P&P Section N.5 to correlate with the wording in SDSD DSB P&P Section J.4, which states that those inmates housed in the jail's high-risk EOH unit will not attend court.*
- 2. Additionally, it is recommended that the SDSD update their DSB P&P Section P.9 to correlate with the wording in SDSD DSB P&P Section J.4, which states that those inmates housed in the jail's high-risk EOH are not permitted to have social visits.*

In reviewing the Investigative Report provided by CLERB for this case, the inmate was arrested and booked into the Vista Detention Facility (VDF). Based on the results of the Receiving Screening process and evaluations by mental health personnel, the inmate was placed in the Inmate Safety Program (ISP) in a medical isolation cell for EOH as high-risk. The inmate remained in the EOH high-risk for approximately six days until released from custody.

DSB P&P section J.4 currently states inmates in the EOH program will not receive social visits and inmates determined to be high-risk in EOH will not attend court. DSB P&P section N.5 relates to the access to courts, attorneys, and legal advice. DSB P&P section P.9 relates to social visiting.

CLERB #20-004  
Policy Response

To reduce redundancy and eliminate the potential for errors when revisions are made, we try to avoid putting the same language/procedural information into two different policy sections. We have developed a "Related Sections" header on each of our policy sections for cross-referencing purposes. As such, we have added J.4 to the "Related Sections" header on both policy section N.5 and P.9 for staff to reference.

In closing, we appreciate the time and effort of the Citizen's Law Enforcement Review Board. I would like to thank you for your service to the Citizens of San Diego County and the policy recommendations. It is our goal to provide the "Highest quality public safety services" to everyone in San Diego County.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM D. GORE, SHERIFF

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Scott Amos".

Scott Amos, Lieutenant  
Division of Inspectional Services  
Office of the Sheriff