



San Diego County Sheriff's Department

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William D. Gore, Sheriff

September 5, 2018

Sandra Arkin, Board Chairperson
Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board
555 West Beech Street, Suite 505
San Diego, CA 92101-3819

CLERB CASE NUMBER: 17-038 / Stucki

Dear Chairperson Arkin:

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. We continuously strive to respond with professionalism and concern to the citizens we serve and the CLERB process provides invaluable input to that end.

The letter from CLERB dated August 16, 2018, recommended policy changes related to the Sheriff's Detentions policy M.37 "*Communicable Disease Control*." Specifically, CLERB requested the following:

1. In an attempt to ensure deputies working in the detention facilities have the appropriate equipment readily accessible to provide emergency medical care to inmates as expeditiously as possible, it is recommended that the San Diego Sheriff's Department (SDSD) revise its Detention Services Bureau Policy and Procedures (DSB P&P) to require deputies in the detention facilities to have disposable protective gloves and a protective airway mask on their persons when interacting with inmates.

These recommendations were thoroughly reviewed at all levels in this organization.

In response to the protective airway mask and keeping this on the deputy when interacting with inmates, DSB P&P Section M.36 "*Standard Blood and Body Fluid Precautions*" already mandates a protective airway mask (PAM) or a protective barrier membrane (PBM) "is to be worn whenever there is a likelihood of production of respiratory droplets, mists, splash, or sprays." M.36 continues, "Protective Barrier Membranes (PBM or PAM) (disposable on-way valve mask) shall be used any time administering CPR," and "Protective Barrier Membranes shall be used anytime mouth to mouth resuscitation is used." Additionally, deputies are already required to carry the PAM/BPM on their duty belt, while on duty in a detentions facility pursuant to DSB P&P M.37 "*Communicable Disease Control*."

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With regards to disposable protective gloves, these gloves are provided at all Sheriff's facilities and are readily available to all staff. In the detention facilities, these protective gloves can be found in various locations, such as: housing floors, deputy stations, medical, booking/intake areas, and processing. (It should be noted that the previous list is not all-inclusive list and are merely examples.)

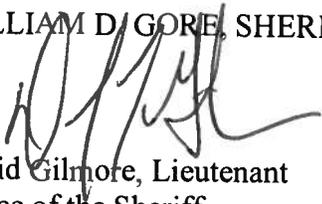
Deputies under the command of the Detentions Services Bureau are required to conduct line-up training regarding "*Injury and Illness Prevention*" during the first quarter (July-September) of each fiscal year. This yearly training includes a discussion on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Deputies also receive training in the proper use of PPE while in the academy setting. Our Detentions Services Bureau has also disseminated video training regarding *Donning and Removing PPE*. While not written in policy, it is common practice for deputies and medical staff to carry protective gloves on their person and wear the protective gloves, while working in a detentions facility, specifically while working around inmates.

While we agree that in this instance the deputy left the inmate to obtain proper PPE prior to rendering medical aid, we believe this is an isolated incident and does not represent common practices among our staff.

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



David Gilmore, Lieutenant
Office of the Sheriff
Division of Inspectional Services

DG: adm