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## Religious Head Covering

### 10.3.4.1 AT INTAKE

During intake, youth's religious head covering must be removed and searched as required for contraband. Staff should make every reasonable effort to ensure that it is done in a manner that is respectful of the head covering and its purpose.

If the religious head covering is for the purpose of modesty, officers should take particular care to:

- a) Keep the youth out of view from other youth and uninvolved staff.
- b) Use staff of the same gender as the youth.
- c) Only use the number of staff needed to ensure security should be present while the youth's head is uncovered.
- d) Allow the youth to don the religious head covering before leaving the private area.

Youth may be permitted to retain their personal religious head coverings in housing, though they may also request a facility issued head covering. Staff must take an additional booking photograph of the youth wearing religious head covering. A new wristband should be made using the photograph of the youth wearing the religious head covering.

### 10.3.4.2 WITHIN THE FACILITY

Staff should permit youth to wear religious head coverings within the facility such as inside housing units/modules, while on the way to religious services, court, medical, visits, educational programs, etc. Religious head coverings for modesty are explicitly subject to search by same gender staff for security reasons in the same manner as during intake. Prior to leaving the module or housing unit, youth wearing religious head coverings will have their identity verified by staff and the religious head covering will be searched in the manner aforementioned.

### 10.3.4.3 YOUTH REQUESTS

A youth who requests a head covering for religious purposes that did not have one at the time of booking should submit a request to the Watch Commander, who will then:

- a) Issue the head covering to the youth.
- b) Document it in PCMS as an "Information Only" note.
- c) Notify the unit Supervising Probation Officer and facility Division Chief in which the youth is housed.
- d) Have an employee take an additional booking photograph of the youth wearing religious head covering, and issue a new wristband displaying the photograph of the youth wearing the religious head covering.

# San Diego County Probation Department

Procedure Manual

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## **10.3.4.4 REQUESTS BY THIRD PARTIES**

Like other religious accommodations, a request for religious head covering is driven by individual conscience rather than the desires of another party. In the event that a family member, religious leader or other interested party requests a religious head covering for a youth, the youth should be asked whether they have the same request. Ultimately the choice resides with the youth therefore their preference should prevail, which should then be documented in PCMS by the officer who spoke to the youth.