

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

1515 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  
 P.O. Box 942883  
 Sacramento, CA 94283-0001

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2007 JAN 26 P 2:20



January 18, 2007

CORRESPONDENCE 4

Board of Supervisors  
 Stanislaus County  
 1010 Tenth Street, Suite 6500  
 Modesto, CA 95354

Dear County Supervisors:

As a continuation of its efforts to reach out to the community, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is providing you with this notice of a change in its policy regarding mental health services for parolees. Consistent with the terms of the *Valdivia v Schwarzenegger* federal court injunction, effective January 8, 2007, the CDCR no longer incarcerates parolees solely for psychiatric treatment. The CDCR will continue providing outpatient mental health services to parolees via the community-based Parole Outpatient Clinics (POC).

In our efforts to obtain necessary mental health services outside of POC capabilities, the CDCR will continue bringing parolees to county mental health facilities for a California Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code §5150 evaluation. However, when a parolee-resident is evaluated and found not to meet the criteria for continued county services via the W&I §5150 process, the parolee may often times require structured care to prevent negative outcomes in the community. It is important that communication is established between the county mental health staff, POC clinicians, and the parole agents. This is crucial for planning and transitioning a parolee-resident from the evaluation setting to an identified treatment source in the community when available. Suggestions on enhancing the communication and developing a process are listed below:

- Clinical case conferencing between county mental health and POC.
- Notification of discharge, agreed upon hours of discharge and discharge planning.
- Provide discharge summary and/or evaluation results to POC.

I look forward to the opportunity to have my staff work with all of the California counties' representatives, and invite you to contact Robert Storms, Staff Services Manager I, Division of Adult Parole Operations, at (916) 323-0152 for planning and collaboration on this issue.

Sincerely,

JAMES E. TILTON  
 Secretary  
 California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

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