

# SPECIAL ORDER



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Title  
**Juvenile Mental Health Services**

Circular Number  
**SO-03-09**

Effective Date  
**October 6, 2003**

Distribution  
**A**

Related to  
General Order GO-OPS-308.04 (Processing of Persons Who May Suffer From Mental Illness), GO-OPS-305.01 (Handling Juveniles)

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Special Order is to notify Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) members of the partnership, between the Department of Mental Health and the National Children's Medical Center, to provide site-based psychiatric emergency service for all juveniles referred by the Department of Mental Health's Access HelpLine and children and youth who receive services from the Core Services Agency. The partnership provides that members no longer transport juveniles requiring mental health services to the Central Intake Division, Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP) at D.C. General Hospital. This special order provides procedures for handling juveniles under the influence of foreign substances or suffering from mental health issues. The special order is not all-inclusive.

## II. PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

- A. Effective immediately, members who encounter a juvenile who poses a threat or danger to himself/herself or others shall:
1. If the juvenile is fourteen (14) years or younger transport him/her to Children's National Medical Center, Emergency Room, located at 111 Michigan Avenue, N.W., for mental health services.
  2. If the juvenile is fifteen (15) years or older transport him/her to Riverside Psychiatric Hospital, located at 4460 MacArthur Boulevard, N.W., for mental health services.
  3. If the juvenile, regardless of age, has proof of health insurance, transport the juvenile to Riverside Psychiatric Hospital or Psychiatric Institute of Washington (PIW), located at 4228 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., for mental health services.
  4. Under no circumstances shall a juvenile who is violent or uncontrollable be transported to Children's National Medical Center. All violent or uncontrollable juveniles shall be transported to Riverside Psychiatric Hospital, for mental health services.

5. Complete a FD12 (Application for Emergency Detention).
  6. Immediately notify the juvenile's parent or legal guardian.
- B. Members requiring assistance shall contact Children's National Medical Center at 202-884-5000 or the Department of Mental Health Access HelpLine at 1-888-793-4357. The Access HelpLine is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

// SIGNED //  
Charles H. Ramsey  
Chief of Police

Attachment

CHR:NMJ:MAR:mcw