



**SPECIAL ORDER**



*Planning files with*

*50104*

*304.1*

SUBJECT:

Hospital Courtesy

SERIES

87

NUMBER

33

EFFECTIVE DATE

October 11, 1987

DISTRIBUTION

A

ORIGINATING UNIT

PDD

EXPIRATION DATE

\*

When conducting police business or interviews inside of a medical facility, or any District hospital, members shall adhere to the following procedures:

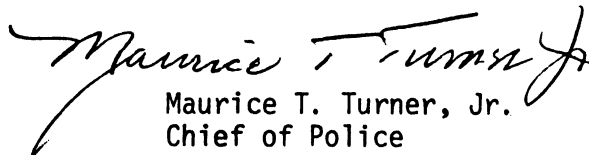
1. Upon arrival at a medical facility or hospital, members shall immediately contact security personnel, or in their absence an employee of the facility representing proper authority (e.g., Administrator, Deputy Hospital Director, Director of Protective Services, Director of Security Services, or persons designated to act in their capacity).
2. In accordance with hospital procedure(s) the hospital staff member will arrange, assist, and cooperate with department personnel in conducting their investigation. During the emergency treatment of a patient, the senior police official or the member conducting the investigation, shall work with hospital personnel to control access to the emergency room by unauthorized police or civilian personnel.
3. Prior to conducting interviews with patients, members shall obtain the permission of the attending physician or a designated member of the nursing staff who will determine the medical capability of the patient to withstand such an interview.
4. Any special instructions issued by the attending physician or designated member of the nursing staff regarding the length of the interview, etc., shall be strictly adhered to by members.
5. Permission to conduct investigative interviews with patients need not be in written form; verbal clearance from a responsible employee of the medical facility is acceptable.
6. When conducting interviews with a patient under the age of 18, members shall attempt to contact the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the minor patient to advise them of the interview and its general purpose. This notification shall not be required if it would compromise the investigation and/or medical treatment.
7. Members desiring to interview a member of the administrative, medical, or support staff shall conduct such interview in a confined area, so as not to interfere with hospital business. Except in those instances where notification of the hospital administrator could compromise an investigation, the hospital administrator shall be notified.

Except in cases of emergency, uniformed officers shall not enter the psychiatric unit of any District hospital. Any police business to be conducted in these facilities shall be handled by non-uniformed personnel.

1. Upon arrival at the Psychiatric Ward in any District hospital members shall immediately request the presence of a hospital Security Officer to secure their service revolvers. Prior to turning their revolvers over to security personnel, members shall safeguard their revolvers by removing and retaining all cartridges.
2. Security personnel at the hospital shall be responsible for securing the member's weapon until the member has completed his/her official business in the psychiatric ward.
3. Upon completion of the interview, the member shall request that his/her service revolver be returned.

NOTE: The above provisions have been deleted from General Order No. 304.1 (Procedures For Conducting Investigations).

\*This Special Order shall remain in effect until its contents are incorporated into appropriate General Order(s).

  
Maurice T. Turner, Jr.  
Chief of Police

MTT:RJB:jtr