BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE FELONY PUNISHMENT FACILITY INMATES

PURPOSE: To establish a process for referring Substance Abuse Felony Punishment (SAFP) inmates for admission into a behavioral health facility.

POLICY: SAFP inmates in need of admission to a behavioral health facility because of acute mental illness and/or suicidal/self-injurious behavior will be referred to the designated behavioral health facility for evaluation and treatment.

PROCEDURE:

I. Inmates will be referred to behavioral health or crisis management facilities in accordance with Correctional Managed Health Care Policy G-51.6, “Referral of an Inmate for Admission into a Behavioral Health Facility.”

During the crisis management/diagnoses-evaluation stay, a decision will be made whether or not the inmate is capable of returning to SAFP programming upon completion of the crisis management/diagnoses-evaluation stay. If not, a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) will notify the SAFP Program Director at the inmate’s original unit of assignment in accordance with Substance Abuse Treatment Manual Policy 03.12, “Procedures for Program Removal or Transfer”.

II. If no definitive decision can be made during crisis management/diagnoses-evaluation, the inmate’s admission may be extended at the behavioral health facility for a maximum of 30 additional days. During that time a decision about the inmate’s ability to return to SAFP programming must be made and communicated to the SAFP Program Director from the inmate’s original unit of assignment.

III. Inmate incapable of returning to a “regular needs” SAFP due to a mental illness shall remain at the behavioral health facility until appropriate placement can be made and will not return to a “regular needs” SAFP. Inmates who make significant progress in treatment during this transitory period may be transferred to a “special needs” SAFP in lieu of returning to the sentencing county. Such a transfer will be authorized by the Rehabilitation Programs Division (RPD) Program Supervisor V or designee, and coordinated with the Office of Health Services Liaison.

Reference: Substance Abuse Treatment Manual Policy 03.12, “Procedures for Program Removal or Transfer”

Correctional Managed Health Care Policy G-51.6, “Referral of an Offender for Admission into a Behavioral Health Facility.”