BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT
FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE FELONY PUNISHMENT FACILITY OFFENDERS

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

POLICY: SAFP offenders 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. Offenders will be referred to behavioral health or crisis management facilities in accordance with Correctional Managed Health Care Policy G-51.6, “Referral of an Offender for Admission into a Behavioral Health Facility.”

During the crisis management stay, a decision will be made whether or not the offender is capable of returning to SAFP programming upon completion of the crisis management or behavioral health stay. If not, a Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) will notify the SAFP Program Director at the offender’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, the offender’s admission may be extended at the behavioral health facility for a maximum stay of 30 additional days. During that time a decision about the offender’s ability to return to SAFP programming must be made and communicated to the SAFP Program Director from the offender’s original unit of assignment.

III. Offenders 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. Offenders 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.”