

OGDEN CITY POLICE

Office of the Chief

Policy No: 35

Subject Persons with Mental Disorders	Effective Date March 2018
Department Police	Replaces Policy Dated February 2006
Division All Police Personnel	Review Date March 2024
Authorized Signature 	

NOTE: This rule or regulation is for internal use only and does not enlarge an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this directive, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this agency, and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

I. PURPOSE

To provide officers with guidelines for handling persons with mental disorders or disabilities who may or may not be criminal suspects.

II. POLICY

The policy of the Ogden Police Department is that its officers will respect the constitutional rights of all people regardless of mental stability or condition. The Ogden City Police Department is committed to providing a consistently high level of service to all members of the community and recognizes that a person in crisis may benefit from intervention.

III. PROCEDURE

Often a person who has committed a criminal offense may appear to be mentally disturbed, suicidal, or may otherwise display a mental disorder requiring treatment or help.

- A. If the person has committed a criminal offense under circumstances where a citation is deemed inappropriate and there is probable cause for arrest, or if a warrant has been issued, that person will be transported to the county

jail for custody. Officers will convey to jail personnel all relevant information so the arrestee can be properly placed.

- B. Emergency custody situations allow an officer, based upon his observations, to formulate probable cause that a person is mentally ill, appears to be a danger to himself or others, and needs immediate evaluation and/or hospitalization. The officer may transport that person to the psychiatric unit at the McKay-Dee Hospital where a temporary involuntary commitment order will be signed by the officer. The application will be on the prescribed form and will include the following:
 - 1. A statement by the officer as to why a belief exists of a mental illness, whether on the basis of personal observation or on the basis of a mental health officer's observation, and why the officer believes the person is, as a result of a perception of a mental illness, a substantial and immediate danger to them self or others.
 - 2. The specific nature of the danger.
 - 3. A summary of the observations upon which the statement of danger is based.
 - 4. A statement of facts which called the person to the attention of the officer.
- C. Police officers have no authority to pick up a person who has voluntarily committed himself to a hospital or other treatment facility and voluntarily left unless that person has committed a crime.