



## Memorandum

**Date:** March 16, 2020

**Subject:** DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE ON SUSPENSION OF LANTERMAN  
PETRIS SHORT ACT PATIENT ADMISSIONS

Pursuant to Governor Gavin Newsom's Proclamation of a State of Emergency dated March 4, 2020, the Director of the Department of State Hospitals issues this Directive in accordance with the Director's authority to execute laws relating to the care and treatment of persons with mental health disorders placed with the State Department of State Hospitals (DSH). To ensure that patients with mental health disorders currently in DSH's custody continue to receive the services and support that are threatened by disruptions caused by COVID-19, and to protect the health, safety and welfare of those patients, the Department is suspending admission of patients placed at DSH facilities as civil committees pursuant to the Lanterman Petris Short (LPS) Act, pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 5358, subdivision (a)(2).

All LPS patients presently in DSH's custody will not be discharged until DSH rescinds the suspension of LPS patient admissions.

During the period of suspended LPS patient admissions, if an LPS patient currently designated for placement at DSH is psychiatrically acute, the Director may exercise discretion to admit that patient on a case by case basis. The committing clinician responsible for that individual's clinical assessment should contact the DSH Medical Director, or designee, about the individual's psychiatric acuity and provide medical information and documentation that supports such acuity.

The point of contacts for this process are as follows:

DSH-Napa Admissions Suite - (707) 253-5464

DSH-Metropolitan Admissions Suite - (562) 584-7032 or (562) 474 2583

DSH-Patton Admissions Suite – (909) 425-7389 or (909) 286-2184



The Director, or her designee, is the final authority for determining psychiatric acuity of an LPS patient for purposes of granting an exception to the suspension of LPS patient admissions to a DSH facility.

This suspension of LPS patient admissions will remain in effect for 30 days, unless extended by the Director of the Department.

Please contact DSH's Office of Communications if you have questions, at (916) 654-2410 or at [OfficeofCommunications@dsh.ca.gov](mailto:OfficeofCommunications@dsh.ca.gov).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Clendenin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

STEPHANIE CLENDENIN  
Director