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<b>Issue Date:</b> 02/01/97	
<b>Revised:</b> 06/18/21	

**Notes and  
References**

**ESCAPE (AWOL) POLICY**

**I. Escape/AWOL Response**

- A. In all cases of escapes from the facility site, an immediate response is to be initiated with duty staff as deemed appropriate by the Shift Supervisor, available Administrative Staff, and/or by calling in additional staff. A minimum of one, preferably two, probation staff will respond in pursuit of a youth fleeing from the facility as staffing allows and if safe to do so. In addition, law enforcement and the U.S. Forest Service will be immediately notified and all requisite secondary notifications will be made as soon as possible.
1. In the event a youth leaves Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC) without permission in violation of §871 WIC (ESCAPE), the following procedures will be adhered to:
    - a. Alert all staff on duty of the youth(s) who have escaped.
    - b. The Deputy Probation Officer, Senior (Sr. DPO), Juvenile Institutions Officer, Senior (Sr. JIO) or designee will immediately notify all contacts listed on the AWOL checklist, including LPBC Administration, law enforcement and local contacts.
    - c. All activities will cease and youth will return to the dorm to enable the Sr. JIO or designee to obtain an accurate head count and maintain group control.
    - d. The primary responsibility of the staff is to maintain supervision and control of the remaining group. When a youth(s) escapes, staff can give a verbal command, but must not leave their supervision post without permission of the Sr. JIO, Sr. DPO or SPO.
    - e. If additional staff (above mandated staffing ratios) is on duty, the Sr. DPO or Sr. JIO can designate staff to

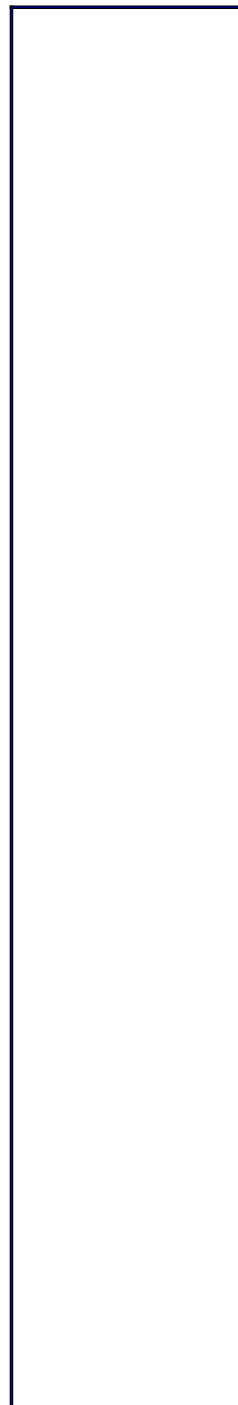
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immediately pursue the youth and search the facility grounds and surrounding area, including all buildings on the LPBC campus.

- 1). Searches in the surrounding area will continue until it is no longer safe to proceed due to weather, loss of daylight, or other conditions.
  - 2). Searches on the facility grounds, including the interior of buildings and rooms, will be conducted a minimum of once per hour until terminated by the Manager or designee.
  - 3). Video reviews will be completed by the Sr. DPO or administration as soon as reasonable after an AWOL and periodically thereafter if the youth is not apprehended to determine if he may still be on the property.
  - 4). Staff completing searches of the surrounding areas and facility grounds are to document the time they began and ended their searches, as well as all ongoing interior building and facility grounds searches.
- f. Residents will be requested to assist in a further search of the canyon and administrative staff will assist as available.
- 1) If the AWOL is during on-call hours, the on-call resident is expected to respond and assist with the search.
  - 2) Residents not on-call may be contacted to request their assistance if available and able.
- g. The Sr. JIO/Sr. DPO on duty will complete a detailed Workers Special Report (WSR) and ensure that requisite calls have been made and that a LPBC AWOL Checklist has



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been completed before going off duty. The Sr. DPO/SPO will approve the WSR and provide a signed copy to the Administrative Office Professional (AOP) to be electronically submitted to the Probation Officer of record to facilitate the timely filing of a petition and the issuance of an arrest warrant.

- B. In all cases of escapes from an out-of-camp work crew or field trip, an immediate response is to be initiated with duty staff as deemed appropriate.
  - 1. The Transportation staff will:
    - a. The primary responsibility of the transportation staff is to maintain supervision and control of the remaining group. When a youth(s) escapes, staff can give a verbal command, but must not leave their supervision post without permission of the Sr. JIO, Sr. DPO or SPO.
    - b. Once the remaining group has returned to the vehicle/or when the first safe opportunity presents itself, the transportation staff will make telephone contact with LPBC to report the time, direction and name of the youth that have AWOL'd.
    - c. Immediately upon notification to LPBC, the staff will start the return trip to LPBC without any further stops, unless required due to a subsequent emergency.
    - d. Upon return to LPBC, the staff will complete a detailed WSR and debrief with the Sr. JIO, Sr. DPO, SPO or MPO before going off duty. The Sr. DPO/SPO will approve the WSR and provide a signed copy to the Administrative Office Professional (AOP) to be electronically submitted to the Probation Officer of record to facilitate the timely filing of a petition and the issuance of an arrest warrant.

**PROBATION DEPARTMENT  
LOS PRIETOS MANUAL**

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2. The Dorm staff will:
  - a. Alert all staff on duty of the youth(s) who have escaped.
  - b. The Deputy Probation Officer, Senior (Sr. DPO), Juvenile Institutions Officer, Senior (Sr. JIO) or designee will immediately notify all contacts listed on the AWOL checklist, including LPBC Administration, law enforcement and local contacts.
- C. Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray may be used off, as well as on, the facility site as long as it is deployed in the course of carrying out duties as a peace officer and subject to training in the proper cause for, use, and execution of the OC. Deployment of the OC should be “that level of defensive force appropriate to control a resistive, aggressive or violent youth and/or overcome said resistance, while ensuring the safety and security of staff, other youth present, and the involved youth.” The proper selection of a response is to be subject to the approved defensive force strategies as outlined in Section 1158 of the Administrative Manual and Chapter 5108 of this LPBC Operations Manual.
- D. If an officer is off duty and makes contact with an LPBC youth on an escape/AWOL status, or in violation of the rules of the program, duty status may ensue to allow for what the officer believes can be a safe contact and intervention. If contact with the youth is ill advised due to practical restrictions or safety issues, it is expected that the off-duty staff will make every reasonable attempt to contact law enforcement with the pertinent facts and information and notify LPBC duty staff for documentation of the incident, notification of the probation officer and possible follow-up.
- E. Escapes will be documented in WSRs, IMPACT, the LPBC log, End of Shift Reports, and on a quarterly basis in a formal report to the Manager. A quarterly report for runaways will be forwarded by LPBC Administration to the U.S. Forest Service and made available to the Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Office and the Santa Barbara County Fire Department, upon request.

Refer to  
Administrative  
Manual  
Section 1158

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- F. In the event that an escapee is immediately apprehended, he will be returned to the LPBC program for the formal removal process and subsequently booked in Juvenile Hall for violation of §871 WIC. The dispositional recommendation will be subject to case review and may include custody time in the Juvenile Hall before returning to the LPBC program. Recommendations are also subject to change based on prior escape and behavior history. In the event that an escapee remains at large in violation of §871 WIC, a petition pursuant to §777 (a)(2) WIC in conjunction with a Declaration in support of an arrest warrant will be filed by the assigned Deputy Probation Officer, requesting a warrant be issued for the youth's arrest.

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