



Quick Training Brief

SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT



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CSU Sobering Center – 427 Camino del Remedio, Goleta

Overview

The Santa Barbara Crisis Stabilization Unit Sobering Center provides a safe, short-term setting for adults who are intoxicated and temporarily unable to safely care for themselves, but who **do not require emergency medical evaluation or treatment**. Individuals may be transported to the Sobering Center by law enforcement as an alternative to arrest, booking into jail, or remaining in an unsafe situation.

The Sobering Center may be appropriate for individuals who generally meet the elements of **California Penal Code § 647(f) – Public Intoxication**, provided they also meet the Center's admission criteria.

Individuals considered for placement at the Sobering Center should be **non-aggressive and non-combative**, able to follow basic directions, and capable of safely functioning with minimal assistance. This includes being able to **walk or ambulate on their own and independently use restroom facilities**. Individuals should not require restraints, continuous physical assistance, or a level of supervision beyond that normally provided by Sobering Center staff.

The Sobering Center is intended for individuals whose primary issue is intoxication and who **do not have an apparent medical condition requiring evaluation or treatment**. Persons exhibiting signs of extreme intoxication, altered consciousness beyond what would reasonably be expected from uncomplicated intoxication, significant injury, medical distress, or any other condition creating concern for their immediate health or safety should be evaluated by paramedics and, when appropriate, transported to the Cottage Hospital Emergency Department.

Officers are encouraged to utilize the Sobering Center whenever appropriate and when the individual meets the admission guidelines. With extended intake hours, the Sobering Center provides officers with an important alternative to Santa Barbara County Jail for qualifying individuals whose circumstances can be safely managed in a non-custodial sobering environment.

Purpose

The purpose of the CSU Sobering Center is to reduce harm and prevent intoxication-related incidents from unnecessarily escalating into an arrest or a larger public-safety issue. Their focus is on immediate stabilization rather than criminal consequences. Trained staff provide monitoring, hydration, rest, and a safe environment until individuals are sufficiently sober and able to safely leave the facility.

Checklist for Admission

- Adults only (18YO+)
- Cannot be a registered sex offender (290PC)
- Needs to be able to walk and use the restroom on their own
- Cannot be aggressive or combative
- Can be accepted for alcohol and/or drug intoxications
- Is not hallucinating or having delusions
- Be willing to stay at the center for a minimum of 4 hours

Procedure for Admission

- Call ahead to make sure there is a bed for the individual – **805-250-9022**
- Complete the Sobering Center admission/screening form
 - Paper copies located in the Report Room
 - Sobering Center has paper copies
- The center is located at **427 Camino del Remedio, Goleta, CA**
- Complete a SBPD General Offense report documenting the admission using the “647(f) PC Sober Center Admit” text template within Versadex MRE/RMS. The offense code for the GO is, “Sobering Station Admission”.

Other Information

- Check-in should take approximately 5 minutes
- There are 8 male beds and 4 female beds
- No maximum level of blood alcohol content (BAC)
- No maximum number of visits
 - Cannot visit more than once in a 24-hour period
- If Sobering Center Staff approves, the individual can stay between 24-48 hours, until stabilization
- Center staff will not prevent an individual from “walking away”.
- If the individual walks away from the Sober Center:
 - CSU Sober Center Staff will notify SBPD dispatch.
 - Dispatch will BOL the individual information and an Officer should check the area if calls for service permit. If located and the person still meets the criteria for 647 (f) PC, they shall be arrested and booked at Santa Barbara County Jail.
 - The Officer shall update the general offense report with an entity caution code # 8 – “SOBER CTR WALK AWAY or HISTORICAL RESTORATIVE”, and update the offense to, “Sobering Station Walk Away”.

Summary

Officers should consider the totality of the circumstances when determining whether placement at the Sobering Center is appropriate. The Sobering Center should be used when the intoxicated individual meets the admission criteria, does not require emergency medical treatment, and can be managed in a non-custodial setting.

Using the Sobering Center provides an appropriate alternative that addresses the individual’s immediate safety needs and reduces unnecessary jail bookings.

If questions do arise, please contact your immediate supervisor for guidance and assistance.



Santa Barbara Sobering Center Screening Form

Client Information and Criteria

Date:_____ Time:_____

Client name:_____ DOB:_____ Age:_____ Sex: M / F

Referring agency: ☐ Sheriff ☐ SBPD ☐ LOPD ☐ SMPD ☐ UCSB/IV PD ☐ CHP ☐ Other:

Referring officer:_____ Contact number:_____

The following criteria must be met in order for an individual to enter the CREDO47 Stabilization Center:

- ☐ Over the age of 18
- ☐ Willing and able to cooperate with screening process
- ☐ Not in active psychosis
- ☐ Non-combative
- ☐ Continent and able to walk without assistance
- ☐ Willing to stay at the Center for a minimum of 4 hours
- ☐ Cannot be a registered sex offender

If the individual does not meet all of the above criteria they will not be admitted

Please call the Santa Barbara Sobering Center at (805) 250-9022 for bed availability