

# LOS ANGELES GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER POLICY

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Subject: <b>FIREARMS: CONFISCATION FROM MENTALLY ILL PERSONS</b>	Original Issue Date: 3/1/93	Policy # <b>653</b>
	Supersedes: 12/13/16	Effective Date: 06/08/23
Policy Owner(s): Environmental Health & Safety Officer Executive Sponsor(s): Chief Operations Officer		
Department(s) & Committee(s) Consulted: Nursing Services Environment of Care Committee Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD)	Reviewed & Approved by: Attending Staff Association Executive Committee Senior Executive Officer	Approved by:  Chief Operations Officer
		Chief Executive Officer

## PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for LASD in the enforcement of confiscating weapons from psychiatric patients.

## POLICY

In circumstances where LASD is the primary investigating or detaining agency, its deputies will confiscate all deadly weapons in the possession or control of any patient detained for evaluation and treatment because they are a danger to themselves or others due to a mental disorder.

Officers from outside law enforcement agencies will follow their own agency policies and bear responsibility for confiscating and securing deadly weapons found on patients they bring to Los Angeles General Medical Center. Pursuant to California Welfare & Institutions section 8102 and Sheriff's Department Manual of Policy and Procedures sections 5-04/150.00 ("Property for Safekeeping") and 5-09/540.00 ("Tarasoff Notifications Received from Licensed Psychotherapists")."

Under state law, California generally disqualifies a person from purchasing, acquiring, or possessing firearms if a person is found to be a danger to self or others, or gravely disabled as a result of mental illness. The Augustus Hawkins Mental Health facility and Psychiatry Emergency Services (PES) at Los Angeles General Medical Center are required to submit a report to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) when requested (to determine a person's eligibility to possess a firearm).

## RESPONSIBILITY

Patient Access Center  
Administration  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD)  
Nursing Services  
All Employees

## PROCEDURE DOCUMENTATION

LASD Policy and Procedures Manual and Los Angeles General LASD Station Orders

**DISTRIBUTION: Los Angeles General Medical Center Policy Manual**

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**REFERENCE**

California Penal Code, Sections 171b, and 12025 (A)  
California Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 8100, 8101, 8102, and 8103

**REVISION DATES**

September 1, 1994; October 20, 1998; April 9, 2002; February 24, 2004; September 5, 2008;  
November 9, 2010; February 11, 2014; December 13, 2016; June 08, 2023