

PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (PERT)

A Collaboration Between the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and
Behavioral Health and Recovery Services



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES**

SMCSO JURISDICTIONS

- North Fair Oaks
- Portola Valley
- Woodside
- La Honda
- San Carlos
- SamTrans
- CalTrain
- Half Moon Bay
- El Granada
- Moss Beach
- Princeton
- Montara
- Pescadero
- Unincorporated San Mateo County

PURPOSE OF PERT

- Partnership between SMCSO and BHRS
 - Two SMCSO Detectives
 - Two BHRS Clinicians
- Review all SMCSO cases involving homelessness, I/DD or possible mental illness
 - Investigate and follow up as needed
- Connect clients and families to services and resources that can help manage acute crisis, prevent tragic outcomes, and reduce hospitalization and incarceration
- Consult with SMCSO Crisis Negotiation Unit, other law enforcement agencies, and other behavioral health agencies

PERT RESPONSE

- Review all SMCSO cases
 - Detectives check law enforcement databases
 - Clinicians check behavioral health databases
- Assign cases as needed for follow up
 - Short-term – 30 days or less
 - Refer to appropriate services
- Consult with deputies/other law enforcement when responding to calls with mentally ill individuals

PERT Goals during Crisis

REDUCE VOLATILITY DURING CRISIS CALLS

REDUCE USE OF FORCE

REDUCE FUTURE HOSPITALIZATION & INCARCERATIONS

DISENGAGEMENT
DECISION
MAKING

NO OR MINOR
CRIME COMMITTED



REASONABLE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE FAILED AND RISK
OF MAKING ENTRY IS UNACCEPTABLE



RISK TO OTHERS IS NONE OR ACCEPTABLE



CONSIDER DISENGAGEMENT AS A DE-ESCALATION
TACTIC, THEN RE-ENGAGE AT A LATER TIME