5-09/070.20 - Authorized Escapee Apprehension by Stations/Unit

When circumstances necessitate an urgent apprehension, the station/unit mental health liaison officer may authorize, by telephone, the apprehension of escapees and patients who have violated leave. Authorization shall be to personnel of the station/unit having jurisdiction for the location of apprehension and shall be to pick up and return such violators to the appropriate hospital.

State mental hospital escapees or leave patient violators shall be returned to the Metropolitan State Hospital at Norwalk.

Veterans Administration Hospital escapees or leave patient violators shall be returned to the Brentwood VA Hospital on Sawtelle or to the Sepulveda VA Hospital in Sepulveda, in accordance with the instructions in the order to apprehend.

Field personnel routinely confronted in field situations with possible escapees or leave patient violators shall contact the station/unit mental health liaison lieutenant for instructions.

Voluntary commitment escapees are not subject to apprehension and return by peace officers.

Requests for apprehension in incorporated cities with police departments shall be returned to the sender with instructions to send the apprehension request directly to the concerned agency.