RESCINDED 2024-04 Court Refusal Procedure

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN
Custody Operations

~~Custody Support Services Bureau~~
~~Bulletin #2024-04~~

~~COURT REFUSAL PROCEDURE~~

~~INTRODUCTION~~

~~The purpose of this informational bulletin is to inform all personnel assigned to the Custody Services Division on the proper procedures to follow in the event an inmate refuses to attend court, and to advise supervising line deputies and sergeants on how to document court refusals.~~

~~PROCEDURES~~

~~When an inmate refuses to go to court, every attempt should be made to explain the importance of attending court. However, if the inmate continues to refuse, custody personnel will notify their sergeant.~~

~~The sergeant or their designee (supervising line deputy) will read the court refusal admonishment to the inmate. The reading of the admonition and the inmate's response will be video recorded and properly labeled in the following manner: Date, Booking Number, Last Name, First Name.~~

~~In the event an inmate refuses after they arrive at IRC Old Side Courtline, a sergeant assigned to IRC Old Side Courtline, or their designee (supervising line deputy), will conduct and record the reading of the court refusal admonishment and the inmate's response. See below for the court refusal admonishment:~~

Court Appearance Refusal Admonishment

Inmate _____. You have been ordered to appear in Court today in case number _____. You have notified the Los Angeles County Sheriff that you refuse to leave your cell and you refuse to attend your court appearance.

You have the right to be present at all court proceedings. By refusing to leave your cell and refusing to appear in court, the Court will construe your absence as a waiver of appearance. If the trial has commenced, the Court will also find that you are "voluntarily absent" within the meaning of Penal Code section 1043(b)(2). The Court may also order your extraction and require that you be forcibly removed from your jail cell and transported to court should you continue to refuse to attend court proceedings.

I am directing you to exit your cell at this time to appear in court. Will you cooperate and come with me?

DATE: _____

~~Tracking Refusals and Court Exception (TRACE) is a new paperless system that enables facilities to upload video and submit refusal information. TRACE will be accessible via the Department's Intranet site using the keywords "TRACE" or "Court Refusal" or through the link [REDACTED TEXT]~~

~~Upon completion of the refusal video, facilities will enter all required information and upload the video into the TRACE system as soon as feasible, but no later than 1100 hours.~~

~~The IRC Court Refusal Team will then transfer the videos from TRACE onto Court LEA Information Center (CLIC) for the courts to access.~~

~~If there is any doubt regarding the above, please contact IRC Court Refusal Team at [REDACTED TEXT]~~

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