

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

NUMBER: 1703

SUBJECT: Voluntary Inmate Research

ACA STANDARDS: 4-ALDF-7D-18

DIRECTOR: Herbert Bernsen

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/00 REVISION DATE: 11/13



I. POLICY

The St. Louis County Department of Justice Services will ensure any scientific research to be conducted within the facility will comply with professional and scientific ethics and with state and federal guidelines for the use and dissemination of research findings.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES

All St. Louis County Department of Justice Services staff are responsible for the following procedures.

III. DEFINITIONS

Research: Any investigation or experimentation aimed at the discovery and interpretation of facts.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. General Information

1. It is not the intent of the Department of Justice Services to actively solicit research projects to be conducted within the facility. Should a legitimate proposal for a research project be presented to the Director of the Department of Justice Services, the research will

only be allowed in accordance with this policy and in compliance with all applicable Federal and State laws.

B. Application for Research

1. The Director of the Department of Justice Services will review and approve all facility research projects prior to the implementation of the projects to ensure they conform with all policies and procedures.
2. Portions of this record are closed pursuant to Section 610.021 (19) (21) RSMo and Section 114.020 (18) (20) SLCRO because public disclosure of such portions would threaten public safety by compromising the safe and secure operation of the Jail, and the public interest in nondisclosure outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the portions of such records.

C. Application Review

1. The Director of the Department of Justice Services will review all applications and respond to the applicant in writing within five (5) working days.
2. The Director may reject any applications for just cause.
3. The Director will state the just cause for the rejection in writing.

D. Approval Guidelines

1. All research programs involving voluntary inmate participation will be permitted only after review of proposed research establishes the following:
 - a. The risk factor to the inmate(s)
 - b. The possibility of negative side effects to the inmate(s)
 - c. The inmate(s) will sign a voluntary participatory waiver.

E. Prohibited Research

1. All research requiring inmates to submit to medical, pharmaceutical or cosmetic testing is prohibited.

NOTE: This policy does not preclude the individual treatment of an inmate based on his/her need for a specific medical procedure that is not generally available.

F. Application Orientation

1. The Director/designee will ensure that all approved applicants receive an orientation prior to conducting any research within the facility.
2. This orientation will include, but not be limited to:
 - a. Security of the facility
 - b. Staff and inmate safety
 - c. Confidentiality
 - d. Any other policies or procedures relating to their specific research project.