

San Diego Police Department

TRAINING BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Cool Bed Program – Alternatives to Detention (ATD)

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide Department members with an overview of the Cool Bed Program run through Alternatives to Detention (ATD) and provide instruction on how to use the program and what juveniles qualify.

II. BACKGROUND

As part of the region's commitment to implement best practice strategies to address juvenile delinquency, a number of programs have been developed through Alternatives to Detention (ATD) for youth in the juvenile justice system. This effort between the San Diego Police Department, other local law enforcement and ATD service providers not only offers a significant cost savings but supports local strategies to keep youth in the least restrictive environment.

One of the programs available through ATD is the "Cool Bed Program", which is available to juveniles who have committed a misdemeanor family offense and/or are currently on Juvenile probation who would not typically need to be detained in Juvenile Hall, however they cannot stay in their home due to other reasons, such as safety.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Eligibility:

1. Juveniles must be between 11 and 17 years of age.

2. The crime must be a misdemeanor (no felonies). Examples of eligible crimes include family battery and in-house vandalism. Inappropriate referrals would be for youth with severe/unstable mental health issues, chronic runaways, serious violent offenses, youth under the influence of alcohol/drugs and those that are physically ill.

B. Cool Bed Program Process:

1. Officers responding to juvenile calls at a residence should determine if a misdemeanor crime has occurred.
2. If the crime is a misdemeanor, determine whether the juvenile offender can safely remain at home under the circumstances. If not, prior to leaving the juvenile's home ask the parents whether they would consent to have their child placed in an ATD Cool Bed as an alternative to Juvenile Hall. A brief description of the program is included in the ATD Patrol Guide which is attached to this Training Bulletin.
3. If the parents give consent, call the Alternatives to Detention Cool Bed Hotline at (619) 838-5514 (24 hours a day and Law Enforcement only).
4. Officers will need to provide the ATD representative with a synopsis of the event so placement can be properly evaluated.
5. If the juvenile is identified as being Cool Bed eligible, an ATD representative will respond to the scene and take custody of the juvenile. Officers must complete a JCR as well as the appropriate crime report.
6. If the juvenile is *not* Cool Bed eligible, officers should transport to Juvenile Hall and notify DCU that the minor was not eligible for a Cool Bed. Officers must complete a JCR and appropriate crime report.

Flow charts have been attached to this Training Bulletin to assist Department members in identifying those instances where the ATD Cool Bed Program would be an appropriate alternative to custody.

If you have any questions regarding the ATD Cool Bed Program, please contact Officer Tony Carter at (619) 531-2724 or email at tcarter@pd.sandiego.gov.

ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION COOL BED FLOW CHART

RADIO CALL
Officers dispatched to family incident. Determine if youth committed a crime (Misdemeanor or felony).

**No
Crime**

Step 1A – Youth remains home.

Step 1B – Provide family with Community Assessment Team (CAT) Handout.

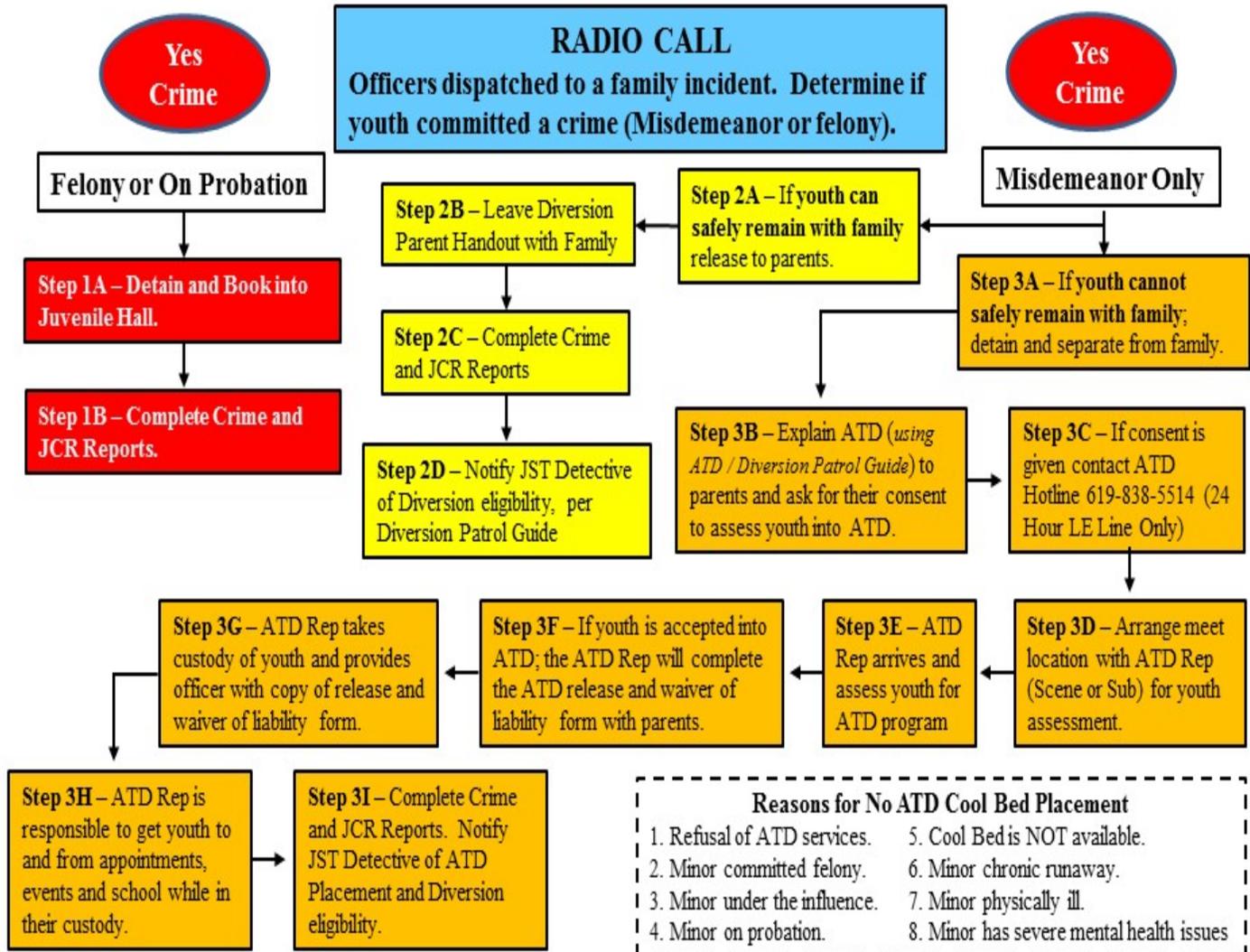
Step 1C – Officer provides JST Detective with copy of field interview on incident. Officer recommends CAT referral.

Note 1 – See Part II of ATD Flow Chart for crimes committed.

Note 2 – CAT Handout can be found in the Resource Library under Juvenile Services.



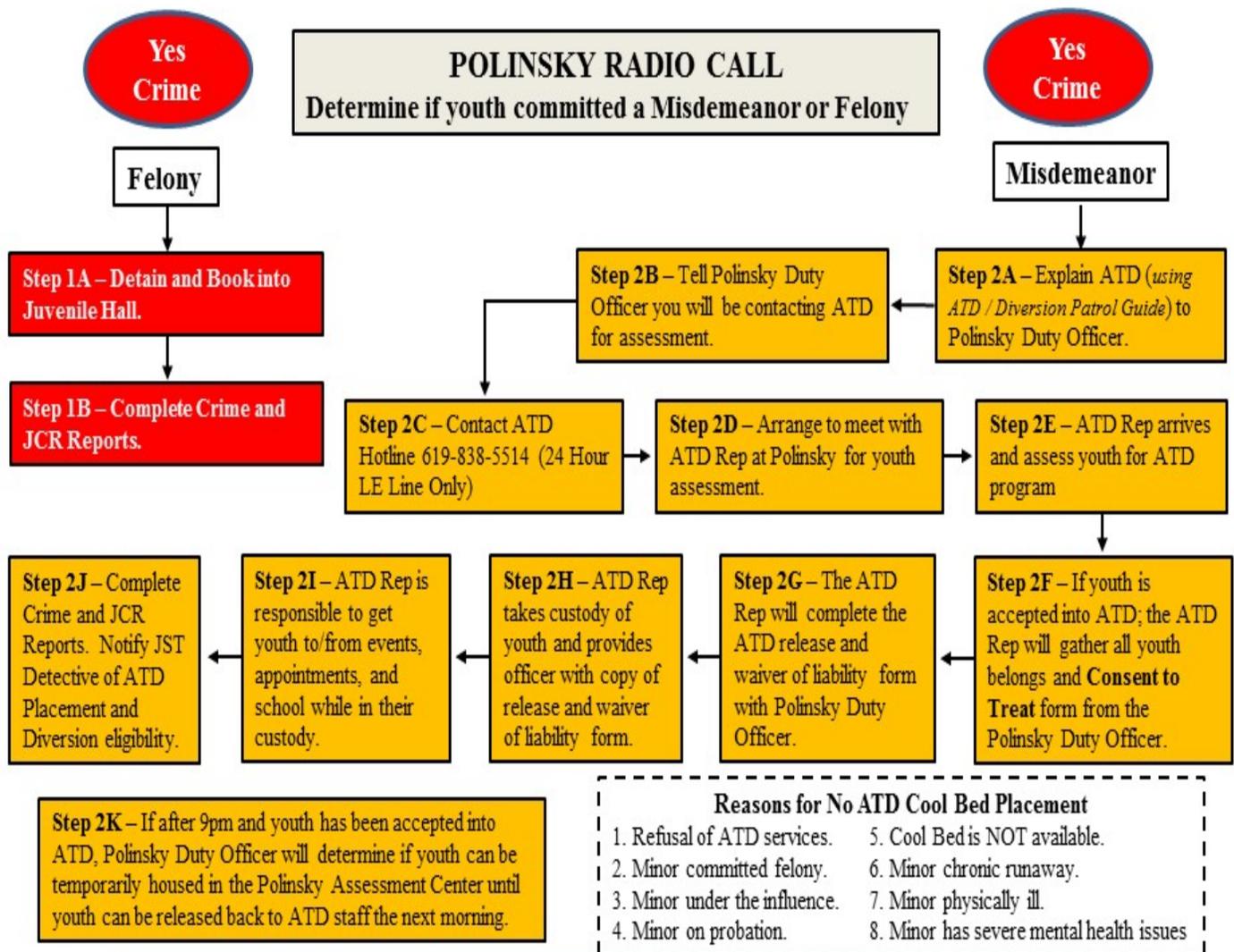
ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION COOL BED FLOW CHART



Note – If youth is not entered into ATD for any reason, book youth into Juvenile Hall.



ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION COOL BED FLOW CHART



Note – If youth is not entered into ATD or retained at Polinsky for any reason, book youth into Juvenile Hall.

