

LAW ENFORCEMENT RELATIONS POLICY

OHSU Healthcare shall assure that patient care is delivered in a safe, efficient, and timely manner, protecting patient personal health information at all times.

What do I need to know about the Law Enforcement Relations Policy?

- The Law Enforcement Relations Policy guides OHSU employees on specific interactions with Law Enforcement, provides for the safety of OHSU Healthcare workforce members and patients from potentially dangerous circumstances, and ensures compliance with applicable law and policy relating to patient care and protected health information.
- The Law Enforcement Relations Policy makes the Department of Public Safety (DPS) available to act as a liaison to outside law enforcement agencies in most circumstances.

When can I interact with Law Enforcement officials without contacting DPS?

- If an outside agency calls *on behalf of a patient*, such as to schedule an appointment for a patient in their custody, requesting information regarding an appointment for a patient in their custody, arriving with a patient on a hold, etc., DPS does not need to be an intermediary as they do not have access to EPIC.

When should I contact DPS to interact with Law Enforcement officials?

- For all situations where outside law enforcement is requesting contact with a current patient, requesting information regarding a current patient, requesting to arrest or take a patient into custody, requesting discharge date and time, requesting to return property, is present and has taken a patient into custody, etc., please contact DPS immediately and they will contact the requesting person or agency as well as any necessary OHSU stakeholders such as the affected Healthcare manager, AOD, Legal, Risk or Integrity.

Where can staff get more information?

- The OHSU Healthcare Law Enforcement Relations Policy is available on the Policy Management Database at <https://ohsu.ellucid.com/documents/view/3167>
- Please contact Deputy Chief [Heath Kula](#) in DPS with any questions or concerns.



The Joint Commission - Environment of Care Standards guide OHSU in this material. The Environment of Care Committee offers this tool to help remind employees of safety polices and best practices. Please post or share this information with staff. **June 2014**