

OREGON STATE HOSPITAL

POLICY

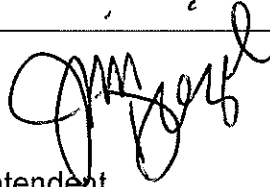
SECTION 8: Safety, Security, Emergency Management

POLICY: 8.035

SUBJECT: Duress Alarm System

POINT PERSON: Director of Occupational Health and Safety

APPROVED: Jim Diegel



DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2025

Interim Superintendent

SELECT ONE: ☐ New policy

☒ Minor/technical revision of existing policy

☐ Reaffirmation of existing policy

☐ Major revision of existing policy

I. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

- A. Oregon State Hospital (OSH) wants to keep staff and patients safe. OSH uses a special alarm system with personal mobile transmitters (PMTs) to get quick help during non-medical emergencies. Staff can only use a PMT for emergencies or safety concerns.
- B. This Policy Applies to all staff.

II. POLICY

- A. The Safety Department runs the alarm system all day, every day. No one may change or tamper with the system or annunciator panels.
 - 1. Staff must report any system problems right away to the Safety Department.
 - 2. Safety staff must report alerts or system problems (like low batteries or reporting errors) to maintenance.
 - 3. Safety staff will check verify the circumstances of the alarm to make sure the person is safe.
- C. Staff who work directly with patients must always wear a properly set-up PMT in patient areas.

- D. The duress coordinator decides who else gets a PMT, especially staff who spend a lot of time with patients.
 - 1. Temporary PMTs must be returned to the Reception Center after each shift.
 - 2. Staff who will be away for more than 30 days must return their PMT to the duress coordinator. A new one will be issued when they come back.
- E. Staff must take care of PMTs and not damage or change them.
- F. If a PMT is lost or damaged outside of work, or not returned when leaving OSH, the staff member must pay for it.
- G. Any PMT problems must be reported to the duress coordinator. Broken PMTs must be returned right away.
- H. The duress coordinator will keep a maintenance program for PMTs and fixed position transmitters (FPTs).
 - 1. The duress coordinator will contact staff for regular PMT maintenance. Staff must make time during their shift to bring in their PMT.
- I. Training on PMT use and setup is provided by the duress coordinator.
- J. OSH follows all laws, rules, and state or federal regulations. If any law or rule is stricter, it overrides this policy.
- K. Staff who don't follow this policy may face disciplinary action.

III. DEFINITIONS (SEE GLOSSARY)

IV. RELATED OSH POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS

8.038 Code Blue Medical Emergency

V. REFERENCES

29 CFR 1910.132