

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY
EXPANDED COURSE OUTLINE
WRITING A 5150: CLINICAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS**

Course: Writing a 5150: Clinical and Legal Aspects

Hours: 4

Objective: This course will provide peace officers and dispatchers with the skills and knowledge on the subject of the Welfare & Institutions Code 5150 (WIC - Involuntary Hold) processes by providing clear legal and clinical guidelines and definitions regarding the 5150-designee process. As a result of this training, officers will be able to understand the legal and clinical standards for holding someone on a 5150, liability associated with writing a 5150; grounds for a 72-hour detention on a 5150 (adults) and 5585 (minors); and to demonstrate the ability to write a 5150 hold for grave disability (GD), danger to self (DTS), and danger to others. (DTO)

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I. Course Overview

A. Course Introduction

- 1. Instructors/Students**
- 2. Course Objectives**

II. Understand the legal and clinical standards for holding someone on a 5150

A. 5150 Elements

- 1. What a 5150 is**
- 2. Who may/may not write a 5150**
- 3. To where a 5150 may be written to**

B. Advisements and Liabilities

- 1. What advisement is necessary when placing a person on a 5150**
- 2. Liability associated with writing a 5150**
- 3. Grounds for a 72-hour detention on a 5150 (adults) and 5585 (minors)**
- 4. Demonstrate the ability to write a 5150 hold for grave disability (GD), danger to self (DTS), and danger to others (DTO)**

III. Know the difference between 5150, 5250, 5300 processes.

A. 5150 Process

- 1. Legal Decisions**
- 2. Ethical decisions**

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B. Other processes

- 1. 5250 Process**
- 2. 5300 Process**

IV. Writing a 5150

A. Fundamentals

- 1. Grounds for detention**
- 2. Probable Cause**
- 3. Medical treatment**
- 4. Searches**

B. Exercise

- 1. Writing an actual 5150 hold using scenarios**
- 2. Video Clip: Watching and discussing a 5150 case**

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Hourly Distribution

Clinical and Legal Aspect of 5150 Writing	
Time	Content
0800-0815	Course Overview
0815-0900	Civil Commitment and Legal Issues
0900-1000	Know the difference between 5150, 5250, and 5300 processes.
1000-1200	Writing a 5150