

**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**

<b>Clinical and Legal Aspect of 5150 Writing</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Content</b>
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