



M e m o r a n d u m

To : SB 882 Advisory Council

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Subject: **First Draft Discussion Points from the Subcommittees for Discussion at the SB
882 Advisory Council's December 10, 2025, Open Public Meeting**

The subcommittees of the SB 882 Advisory Council on Improving Interactions between People with Intellectual and Development Disabilities and Law Enforcement (SB 882 Advisory Council) have developed discussion points for discussion at the full Council's December 10, 2025, open public meeting.

The SB 882 Advisory Council is charged with reporting recommendations to the Legislature regarding training about law enforcement interactions with people with mental health, intellectual, and developmental disabilities (MHD/IDD). The Council established six two-person subcommittees on October 14, 2025, to develop potential recommendations in the following areas: (1) Background; (2) Systems Intervention; (3) Training; (4) Data Recommendations; (5) Best Practices; and (6) Community/Non-Law Enforcement.

Between late October and mid-November, each subcommittee met several times to develop potential recommendations in these areas. Below are the subcommittees' proposed discussion points regarding recommendations for consideration by the full Council at the December 10, 2025, full meeting of the Council.

Background Subcommittee Discussion Points

The Background Subcommittee developed the following recommendations related to the first draft report's "background" section, which discusses the history and genesis of law enforcement response to persons with intellectual, developmental, and mental health disabilities, the legal rights of persons in these populations, and current systems of care:

1. The California Legislature and local policymakers should continue to build upon the current systems that support individuals with MDH/IDD to ensure that individuals—including those in crisis—receive the right services at the right time. This includes strengthening coordination of care across systems.
2. In building on these existing systems, policymakers, where appropriate, should consider incorporating elements of the State's Lanterman Act approach to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This model emphasizes person-centered planning, access to lifelong services, and regional center coordination, which could inform broader efforts to improve care and outcomes.

Systems Intervention Subcommittee Discussion Points

The Systems Intervention Subcommittee primarily developed systemic recommendations for non-law enforcement sectors that impact law enforcement responses, such as crisis response models and dispatch systems:

1. Foster law enforcement awareness of/connection with regional centers and county departments of behavioral health.
2. Develop and implement safety trainings for (1) youth/adults with behavioral health conditions and (2) direct support staff specific to interacting with law enforcement and emergency services.
3. Develop training for law enforcement on the spectrum of diagnoses including people with multiple conditions.
4. Develop training for dispatch on handling third party calls that may involve a caregiver—what to screen for, prompts they can present, criteria for sending out law enforcement and how to code it.
5. Investigate and develop strategies to help address workforce shortages among law enforcement, regional centers, and county departments of behavioral health, and their vendors.
6. Follow up on the Manny Act recommendations regarding making voluntary registries subject to statewide coding.
7. Develop best practices and model language for memoranda of understanding between law enforcement, regional centers, and county departments of behavioral health.
8. Build out services for people with multiple disabilities.
9. Address the statewide bed shortage for people in acute crisis.
10. Consider the following funding streams to support these recommendations:
 - a) Priorities or special grants for smaller departments especially in rural areas.
 - b) 911 surcharge funds for cellphones for these purposes.
 - c) Prop 63/Mental Health Services Act funds.

Training Subcommittee Discussion Points

The Training Subcommittee developed recommendations related to training of law enforcement informed by two “non-negotiable guiding principles”—stopping use of force/officer involved shootings and building trust and relationships with the community. The subcommittee also identified key challenges for law enforcement training. These include limited resources and tools tailored to encounters with people with MHD/IDD, the overwhelming volume of new policies without clear integration into existing training, lack of centralized, accessible guidance for officers in the field, insufficient inclusion of subject matter experts in curriculum development, need for more realistic, scenario-based training that reflects community needs, lack of trust and fear between law enforcement and the community which can heighten the response, and difficulty finding subject matter experts who also have the background both to relate to and to make materials relevant to law enforcement. With this context in mind, the subcommittee developed the following recommendations:

1. Integrate MHD/IDD into de-escalation training.
2. Embed MHD/IDD-specific scenarios and considerations into POST learning domains, emphasizing time, distance, and family involvement.
3. Develop field-ready resources and make them accessible via QR codes, mobile apps, and patrol vehicle desktops.
4. Ensure trainings cover culture and local history of interactions and how those can lead to escalation.
5. Leverage technology, including simulation technology.
 - a) Expand the use of virtual reality. Develop statewide mobile training units available to smaller agencies, and bodycam-based platforms like Pro-Forma to simulate real-world encounters involving individuals with MHD/IDD.
 - b) Collaborate with subject matter experts, including professionals who work with people with MHD/IDD and community advocates, to co-develop training modules
6. Create a centralized training hub/library.
 - a) Target audiences/providers—people who would access it: law enforcement, medical professionals, non-profits, facilities like group homes and RC vendors.
 - b) House trainings, recommendations, and sample policy language other agencies can access.
 - c) Mobile training units that can be “checked out” especially for smaller and rural agencies.
7. Build in evaluation and research regarding outcomes.
 - a) Encourage departments to track training outcomes through pre/post assessments, use-of-force data, and officer feedback.
 - b) Explore partnerships with academic institutions to analyze bodycam footage and assess early indicators of escalation.
 - c) Include input from people with lived experience.

- d) Encourage inclusion of people with MHD/IDD on civilian oversight boards regarding use of force
8. Advocate for policy and curriculum reform.
- a) Recommend that POST formally integrate MHD/IDD considerations into de-escalation standards and include subject matter experts in curriculum review processes.
 - b) Explore funding opportunities for virtual reality and mobile training expansion.
 - c) Initiate discussions with POST and academic partners to support curriculum updates and research.

Data Recommendations Subcommittee Discussion Points

The Data Recommendations Subcommittee discussed what data are needed to evaluate practices moving forward and made the following recommendations:

1. Recommendations about how to use data:
 - a) It is important to identify a mechanism to assess the efficacy of any new ideas or programs using research. As the current Council will disband in April, the subcommittee recommend that the Legislature create some structure or position to perform ongoing assessment of program success.
 - b) One such model is to run a pilot project, have researchers assess the efficacy of the pilot project, and make decisions about whether to institute the project more broadly (statewide, or otherwise) based on the results of that research.
2. Recommendations about data collection going forward:
 - a) The subcommittee has concerns regarding whether the data about officer perception that someone has a disability is accurate. The subcommittee recommends engaging researchers to assess this, including on the ground “red-teaming” or trying to apply the data collection system to very difficult conditions to identify failure points.
 - b) The subcommittee recommends identifying priority markers of success to be ensure that the goal of any reforms is measurable. Options for the full Council to consider include:
 - 1) Reduction in death/injury following interactions with law enforcement
 - 2) Increase in connection to helpful services following interactions with law enforcement
 - 3) Reduction in calls to law enforcement to respond to incidents involving people with MHD/IDD
 - 4) Reduction in internal affairs complaints about officer behavior during interactions with the MHD/IDD communities
3. The subcommittee recommends identifying a central repository for data about these interactions, more likely in a public health related agency as opposed to DOJ.

Additionally, the subcommittee is evaluating what data is already collected and what agency is doing that collecting and will come to the full Council meeting with some more clearly identified gaps in data and suggestions for intersections of data sets that could be helpful for future data collection.

Best Practices Subcommittee Discussion Points

The Best Practices Subcommittee discussed best and emerging practices. The subcommittee wants to clarify with the Council the level of support for a given recommendation, e.g. what is a best practice versus emerging practice: it may be that all are “emerging” but be clear about additional data/support needed. With that understanding, the subcommittee made the following recommendations:

1. Training

- a) Encourage self-paced modules that officers can access via a portal and complete asynchronously. The trainings could have interactive exam components to make sure the officers are actively engaged.
- b) Encourage/explore use of virtual reality to enhance training.
- c) Encourage/develop training for families and persons with behavioral health conditions (the mirror to training with officers) so that community members can better learn how to respond to stressful situations with law enforcement officer interactions.
- d) Train for different settings with potentially different responses.
- e) Encourage smaller agencies to learn how to use the POST training portal.
- f) Encourage micro-learning: integrate YouTube body cam footage to discuss specific scenarios – what was done, what could be improved, etc.
 - 1) Identify where this training would be housed (e.g., POST portal).

2. Response Models

- a) Consider adopting Blue Envelope system or lanyard system (voluntary system where people with IDD can self-identify so officers know). Translate to common community languages.
- b) Systemically integrate calls for service with officer-initiated stops so that law enforcement is aware if family member has called in a relative v. officer comes across the scene.

Community/Non-Law Enforcement Subcommittee Discussion Points

The Community/Non-Law Enforcement Subcommittee developed recommendations regarding agencies other than law enforcement like educational agencies, local departments of behavioral health, and regional centers that may impact law enforcement interactions:

1. Encourage law enforcement agencies to collaborate with community/non-law enforcement entities to allow for more natural, regular, non-emergency interactions between community members and law enforcement officers.
 - a) Programs to have individuals visit police stations and chat with law enforcement officers.
 - b) Law enforcement officers visit individuals with disabilities at, for example, various day programs, regional centers, regional center vendors.
 - c) Community events where natural conversations can occur (such as a community park) and officers and individuals do activities together (such as assigning buddies and play games together).
2. Integrate into the K-12 education system and curricula training and skills on how students can safely interact with law enforcement and interactions with law enforcement officers generally.
 - a) Positive and structured interactions with SROs so that students with disabilities can get used to interacting with officers and have continuity from school setting to other settings.
 - b) For schools without SROs, interaction with officers can still be part of curriculum where officers and educators work together to teach students how to safely interact with officers.
 - c) Work with a speech pathologist to develop a signal that helps individuals communicate non-verbally with law enforcement officers that they are experiencing a crisis. Once signal is developed, educate individuals and officers to utilize the signal.
 - d) Integrate into IEP skills and tips on how to interact with law enforcement (without necessarily having law enforcement come to IEP meetings).
3. Train and provide resources to individuals who are not law enforcement officers.
 - a) Training of and resources to students in schools (see Recommendation #2).
 - b) Training of and resources to individuals who receive services from regional centers. This can be integrated into the regional centers' IPP.
 - c) Training of dispatchers on how to get the right information from callers and triage so that interactions with law enforcement officers are minimal and if needed, safe
 - d) Training of private security officers, especially those who are able to carry a gun, in the same way police officers would be trained, during the security certification process.
 - e) Information and resources to family members and guardians to help limit calls to 911, and if 911 must be called, information on what would be helpful for callers.

4. Measure and track the impact of the above recommendations.
 - a) Create a database of data on positive and negative interactions and measure performance progress during the implementation of the recommendations.

The subcommittee also identified two topics for further discussion with the full Council: (1) How non-law enforcement mobile crisis teams can be effectively developed, utilized, and funded; (2) Whether making a recommendation involving the actions of private businesses (e.g. big box stores and private security) would be going outside SB 882's charge.