



SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING BULLETIN

TO: ALL DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

FROM: Paul Joseph
Chief of Police

SUBJECT: SB 43 – REDEFINITION OF
GRAVELY DISABLED

DATE: December 27, 2024

Bulletin #2024-019

On October 2023, Senate Bill 43 was signed into law. This new law introduces significant updates to the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act, which regulates the involuntary commitment of people with mental health disorders to mental health institutions. SB 43 redines the term “gravely disabled” to expand eligibility for mental health intervention and care. The aim of this change is to improve access to care for individuals with complex mental health and substance use needs.

Key Updates to “Gravely Disabled” Definition

Under SB 43, gravely disabled now refers to an individual who, as a result of:

1. a mental health disorder,
2. chronic alcoholism,
3. severe substance use disorder, or
4. a co-occurring mental health and severe substance use disorder,

is unable to meet their basic personal needs, such as:

- food,
- clothing,
- shelter,
- personal safety, or
- necessary medical care.

Implementation Timeline

- **Statewide effective date:** SB 43 will go into effect on January 1, 2025.
- **County-specific timeline:** Santa Clara County will adopt SB 43 provisions starting January 1, 2025. All California counties must fully implement the updates by January of 2026.

Eligibility for a 5150 Hold

SB 43 also clarifies eligibility for a 72-hour psychiatric hold (5150 W&I). Individuals may qualify if they meet **any** of the following criteria:

- danger to self,
- danger to others,
- grave disability due to a suspected mental health disorder,
- grave disability due to a suspected severe substance use disorder, or
- grave disability due to both suspected mental health and severe substance use disorders.



Paul Joseph
Chief of Police

Please contact [REDACTED], Crisis Intervention Training Manager, with any questions.

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