
Sensitive/High-Profile Cases

331.1 POLICY

Any cases involving celebrities, well-known members of the community, Departmental employees or their families, or other cases which have attracted special public attention are to be reviewed for classification as a "sensitive case". Yolo County Probation Department employees must immediately report to their Supervisor(s) any case that appears to be a sensitive case, and the Supervisor must notify their Division Manager for Probation Services employees or Superintendent of the Juvenile Detention Facility for Juvenile Detention Facility employees of such a case. The Chief Probation Officer is to be informed of any potentially sensitive case as soon as practicable by the Division Manager or Superintendent of the Juvenile Detention Facility.

The Department shall provide services in sensitive cases consistent with the treatment of other cases. These cases shall not receive any special treatment or consideration with regard to casework decisions made by the Department regarding any aspect of the case.

If necessary, to avoid claims of bias or ethics violations, the Chief Probation Officer or designee may determine the preparation of a juvenile disposition report or an adult presentence investigation report in a sensitive case should be transferred to another county for completion. At the direction of the Chief Probation Officer or designee, arrangements for transfer are to be made by the assigned Unit Supervisor.

In cases where a Department employee is a witness to a crime, they shall notify their Supervisor as soon as practicable. The Supervisor shall notify the Chief Probation Officer of such a case through the chain of command. The Chief Probation Officer or designee shall determine if the related case will be transferred to another county if the matter is referred to the Department by the Court for any reason.