



OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Policies and Procedures

	NUMBER 381	DATE November 2, 2021
SUBJECT:	FOOD SERVICE, NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND HUNGER STRIKES	DISTRIBUTION A,B,D,E,M.-Clinic
REFERENCE:	Rescinds and replaces Policies and Procedures No. 131, dated February 27, 2004	

POLICY

It is the policy of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office to monitor the operation of the Food Services Unit to provide minimum nutritional requirements in all Jail facilities; as well as a process in place to provide inmates with a legitimate medical or religious basis for a special diet to receive the appropriate dietary needs.

The Food Service Manager shall be responsible for compliance with applicable standards pertaining to food service preparation, planning, nutrition (including special diets) and delivery.

Also, it is the policy of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office to monitor any inmate(s) who is participating in a hunger strike to ensure they do not cause permanent harm to themselves.

PROCEDURE

1.0 REVIEWS/INSPECTIONS

- 1.1 The Food Service Manager shall ensure that a registered dietician reviews the food service dietary allowances at least every six months and/or if a substantial change has been made in the menu.
- 1.2 The Food Service Manager or his/her designee shall conduct menu evaluations at least quarterly to determine compliance with established basic daily food servings.
- 1.3 The local Public Health Department shall conduct annual inspections of the facilities food service operations. The Food Service Manager shall provide a copy of inspections to the Executive Lieutenant.
- 1.4 Weekly inspections of food service areas, food preparation, dining, and equipment will be conducted by facility staff and reviewed with the Food Service Manager or his/her designee. Freezer, refrigeration, food warmer, and dishwasher temperatures will be documented on a daily basis by food service personnel and reviewed by facility personnel.

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2.0 MEAL PLANNING AND SERVICE

- 2.1 All inmates (with the exception of inmates housed at the East Annex who are away from the facility during part of the day) shall be provided with three (3) meals per day, including a minimum of one (1) hot meal, except for special variations or circumstances.
- 2.2 Food Service staff shall prepare advance menus and notations will be documented of any substantial deviations.
- 2.3 Meals shall never be withheld from an inmate for disciplinary reasons.
- 2.4 Meal schedules will be set by the facility command staff in conjunction with security and medical considerations.
- 2.5 The Food Service Manager shall be responsible for provisions to maintain appropriate food serving temperatures at the point of distribution and comply with food preparation standards.
- 2.6 Deputies shall oversee the inmate workers' distribution of meal trays to ensure all inmates receive a tray, including those inmates on lockdown status, bed rest or who are confined to their cell and restricted from the dayroom dining area.

3.0 SPECIAL DIETS

- 3.1 Medical diets shall be prescribed by the treating jail health provider and shall be ordered in writing.
- 3.2 Jail Health Clinic staff shall be responsible for entering the written order into the current roster in the Jail Management System under medical prescreen. The Jail Clinic staff is responsible for reviewing the rosters to ensure accuracy of special diets.
- 3.3 Inmates receiving medically prescribed special diets shall receive a wristband, which identifies the type of diet necessary. Clinic personnel shall affix the diet wristbands to the inmate.
- 3.4 After the Jail Health Clinic staff enters the special diet code into the Jail Management system, the Kitchen Deputy is able to run a current special diet list from the Sheriff's HUB program prior to each meal.
- 3.5 Lactose and food intolerances generally do not require therapeutic modification and can be dealt with by avoidance of the food/drink product.
- 3.6 Religious diets shall be approved by the Chaplain's Office in writing and forwarded to the Classification Supervisor for entry into the Jail Management System. The procedure listed in 3.3 shall be followed.

4.0 HUNGER STRIKES

- 4.1 Deputies shall immediately refer any inmate(s) they observe to be experiencing a weight loss to the Jail Health Clinic. Jail Health Clinic personnel shall determine appropriate services and follow-up care.
- 4.2 Any inmate(s) declaring to be on a hunger strike will be brought to the attention of the supervisor. The deputy and supervisor shall immediately discuss the situation with the inmate(s) to attempt and resolve the issue or, if not possible, obtain as much information about the reasons, issues, problems, etc.
- 4.3 If the situation cannot be resolved, the supervisor shall submit a report to the Shift Sergeant of the circumstances of the hunger strike and immediately refer the inmate(s) to the Program Services Counseling Unit for possible resolution and psychiatric referral, if appropriate.
- 4.4 Upon no resolution after being seen by the Counseling Unit, if possible, the inmate(s) shall be moved to a housing location where deputies can monitor their food intake. Upon the Inmate Caseworker's activation of a meal documentation protocol, the Caseworker will immediately notify the Health Service Administrator.
- 4.5 The Caseworker shall provide the housing Deputy and Classification Deputy with a copy of the Administrative Notice notating the meal documentation.
- 4.6 Classification Deputy will document the activation of the meal documentation and add the meal documentation (MLDO) alert code in the inmate's computer record. The housing deputy will post meal documentation and document on boards and make computer entry.
- 4.7 The deputies in the inmate's housing area shall keep a Special Watch/Daily Documentation Sheet on the hunger strike inmate(s) and record food consumption. The housing Deputy will also generate a new incident and record food consumption in the meal documentation section under incident type.
- 4.8 If the inmate(s) has maintained the hunger strike for 48 hours, they will be referred to the Jail Health Clinic for weight monitoring and an examination to record vital signs and check for dehydration. The Jail Health Clinic will determine the frequency of clinic visits and appropriate follow-up health services, including if further food intake documentation by the deputies is appropriate.
- 4.9 If the hunger strike persists, Jail Health Clinic staff shall determine if and when, hospitalization is necessary.

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- 4.10 In the event the treating physician determines that further fasting may cause death or serious permanent damage to the inmate(s), a Court Order for forced treatment will be sought. An attempt shall be made to secure the inmate's consent to treatment prior to any forced order.
- 4.11 A declared hunger strike shall be terminated upon the inmate(s) ingestion of any food or nutritional liquid.



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Sheriff

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