



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services



Commissioner's Policy Statement and Implementing Procedures

SUBJECT:	Critical Incidents
P & P NUMBER:	Chapter 6.26
APPROVED:	Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Commissioner Date: 10/15/2015
EFFECTIVE DATE:	October 15, 2015 <i>Miriam Delphin-Rittmon</i>
REVISED:	4/11/2012, Replaced Commissioner's Policy Statement 81
REFERENCES:	
FORMS AND ATTACHMENTS:	Critical Incident Report Cover Sheet Critical Incident Report

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: Under Connecticut Statute 17a-452b, the authority for overseeing the quality of services for clients of Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) operated facilities is designated to the Medical Director. The reporting and review of critical incidents is an important component of the ongoing evaluation and improvement of the quality of care and services.

POLICY: Critical Incidents shall be reported by state-operated Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA) Executive Director/Chief Executive Officers and the State Hospital Chief Executive Office (CEO) or their designee to the DMHAS Office of the Commissioner. Critical incidents are defined as incidents which may have a serious or potential serious impact on DMHAS clients, staff, facilities, or the public or that may bring about adverse publicity. Except as required by law, clinical information regarding clients involved in critical incidents will not be communicated to parties not privileged by law to have access to such information. The sharing of information within the DMHAS Office of the Commissioner will be given on a need to know basis for clinical oversight and quality review purposes.

The requirement to report critical incidents is not intended to supplant any other reporting requirements, e.g. the need to report statutorily defined incidents to the Department of Public Health, the Connecticut Occupational Health and Safety Administration, and likewise should not be superseded by other reporting requirements.

Critical Incidents shall be reported in the form and manner designated by the Commissioner.