

## **-COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-**

**Date:** **August 6, 2025**

**To:** ACBHD Team Members, Stakeholders & Community Partners

**From:** Karyn Tribble, PsyD, LCSW | BHD Director 

**Subject:** **Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) § 5270 – Alameda County Implementation**

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Greetings Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) System Partners:

This memorandum has been provided in order to provide you, as a system stakeholder, with information relative to the implementation of a newly adopted legal process within Alameda County.

**Context and Background:** On June 17, 2025, Alameda County Board of Supervisors (BOS) formally approved the adoption of WIC § 5270 within Alameda County effective August 1, 2025. This process was originally added to the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act (LPS) hold for *Grave Disability* in the State of California in 1988 and has in more recent years been adopted in counties across the Bay Area. In short, the adoption of WIC § 5270 will afford qualified clinical treatment providers throughout Alameda County to apply for this hold in order to support clients who may benefit from an *additional* period of treatment to increase stability and coordinate care, without the need to immediately pursue a conservatorship. A conservatorship is a more restrictive legal process. An important goal for any system that adopts WIC § 5270 is to reduce conservatorships Countywide and to allow for greater time for individuals to achieve the sustained clinical care they might need during their hospitalization (30 days).

ACBHD has been working with many impacted county partners, providers, and community stakeholders to understand this process and has provided training on the local implementation of WIC § 5270 on July 29, 2025, and August 5, 2025.

**Resources available:** Along with this communication, our goal is to share information and tools with you so that you may learn more about WIC § 5270 and its general application. To that end, we are providing copies of the formal training materials, including the presentation, *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)*, and a link (<https://youtu.be/uvL4tXoIAxQ>) if you are interested in viewing the recorded WIC § 5270 training at your convenience.

At any time, you may feel free to contact ACBHD ([bhcsdirector@acgov.org](mailto:bhcsdirector@acgov.org)) should you have any questions regarding these materials or the implementation of WIC § 5270 within Alameda County; and your inquiry may be routed to the appropriate departmental or system leader.

We thank you in advance for reviewing the materials and for your partnership as we support the clients we serve. Your support, collaboration, and coordination across the county is greatly appreciated.