



**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
POLICY/PROCEDURE**

SUBJECT CONSERVATORSHIP AND THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN	POLICY NO. 103.01	EFFECTIVE DATE 04/01/2002	PAGE 1 of 2
APPROVED BY:  Director	SUPERSEDES 108.1 04/01/2002	ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE 10/04/1988	DISTRIBUTION LEVEL(S) 1, 2

PURPOSE

- 1.1 To establish policies and procedure pertaining to conservatorship and the operation of the Office of the Public Guardian.

POLICY

- 2.1 The Public Guardian is designated by the Board of Supervisors to conduct all Lanterman/Petris/Short (LPS) and probate conservatorship investigations and to act as the court-appointed public conservator when necessary.

PROCEDURE

- 3.1 All LPS conservatorships must be initiated by County designated hospitals and agencies.
- 3.2 All LPS conservatorship court proceedings will be initiated by the Office of the Public Guardian.
- 3.3 The Office of the Public Guardian will handle all matters referred to the County for initial probate conservatorship investigation and on cases where Public Guardian is appointed Conservator of person and/ or estate.
- 3.4 Specific procedures are contained in the Public Guardian Policy and Procedure Manual.

AUTHORITY

Welfare and Institutions Code, Sections 5350
 Government Code, Section 811.4, 27430
Brown vs Overshiner 38 Cal.2d 432 (1952)
 Los Angeles County Code, Section 2.87.020
 Probate Code, Section 1800



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REVIEW DATE

This policy shall be reviewed on or before April 1, 2004.