

CAPT Corrections

CHAPTER NEWS

March 19, 2024

Corrections Alert:

Protect Your Job and License – Decline signing off on Refusal Form 7225!

Recent events regarding the completion of CDCR 7225 (Refusal Form) for patients who refuse medical appointments have highlighted a dangerous precedent that puts us at risk of disciplinary action and jeopardizes our professional licenses.

CAPT has a duty to advocate for safe working conditions and protect the integrity of our profession. Last year, the Northern Corrections Chapter President Kim Souza and CAPT Consultant Ann Lyles had numerous discussions with California Correctional Healthcare Services about Psych Techs at California State Prison-SAC, Mule Creek State Prison, and Salinas Valley State Prison being assigned to complete CDCR 7225 (Refusal Form) for patients who refuse lab/clinic/outside medical appointments. Despite our workload objections and warnings to CCHCS about the inherent risks involved in having PTs complete CDCR 7225 without being able to verify said appointments or services, CCHCS assured CAPT that performing this duty, as instructed, would not expose our members to discipline. Unfortunately, the department misled CAPT, and our fears have become a reality.

A CAPT member, who followed protocol and returned the form to the clinic, is now accused of falsifying documentation because the patient claims he did not refuse the appointment. The patient claims the appointment was missed due to staff negligence—no staff came to escort him to the appointment.

This situation is unacceptable. CAPT regrets advising our members that they could safely perform this duty. We should not have been put in this position where our livelihoods and licenses are on the line.

CAPT is taking a stand and *advising members to decline this task moving forward*. We cannot risk facing disciplinary action, which could lead to dismissal and potential repercussions from our licensing board. If any of our members face repercussions for refusing this duty, CAPT will fight tirelessly on their behalf. Our members should not bear the brunt of management's negligence and disregard for our concerns.

CAPT urges Psychiatric Technicians to prioritize their safety and protect their livelihoods. Together, we can hold CCHCS accountable and uphold our rights and professional integrity.

If you have questions or have been asked at your facility to complete the refusal form, contact Northern Corrections Chapter President Kim Souza at norcalprez@psychtechs.net or (916) 955-4807 or Southern Corrections Chapter President Walter Lewis at socalprez@psychtechs.net or (760) 520-5159.

