

**Behavioral Health Oversight and Treatment Calendar (BHOT)  
For Formal Probationers  
South County Division of the Superior Court**

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<p>The BHOT calendar is an unfunded collaborative effort by the Superior Court, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation, and County of San Diego Health &amp; Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Services to assist probationers who need additional support and supervision. The concept of BHOT is to utilize successful elements of the collaborative court model to address problems presented by mentally ill offenders. The calendar combines the resources and expertise of the mental health and criminal justice communities to hold the target population accountable, stabilize their health issues, and reduce recidivism. BHOT targets formal probationers with a serious mental illness and is often composed of people that have been given a last chance before an imposed prison term.</p>
<b>REFERRAL PROCESS</b>	<p>Requests to refer an offender to BHOT can come from judges, deputy district attorneys, defense attorneys, and probation officers, through their respective offices. The court, district attorney, and defense attorney must agree to the referral before the defendant may be added to the BHOT calendar. Selected offenders, who are determined to have a serious mental illness, are ordered to appear on the BHOT calendar, usually after a sentencing hearing or revocation of probation.</p> <p>The BHOT team reviews the progress of participants as frequently as twice a month. Together the team discusses each person’s treatment options, housing placements, and supervision needs. The team utilizes their knowledge, experience, and community contacts to create a realistic and appropriate case plan for the probationer. The court provides support and appropriate orders to help implement each probationer’s case plan. In the early stages of BHOT court appearances are frequent so that the team can ensure strong linkages to services, engagement, and monitor progress. As stability is created, and progress on the case plan is achieved, court appearances are reduced and ultimately he/she is no longer required to appear.</p>
<b>CRITERIA</b>	<p>BHOT participants must be diagnosed with a serious mental illness that meets criteria outlined in Title 9, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 11, Section 1830.205. In addition, they must be South County cases, post-plea, eligible for probation per PC 1203, a San Diego County resident, and mentally competent in accordance with Penal Code §§ 1367-1376.</p>
<b>PROGRAM FOCUS</b>	<p>The Focus of the BHOT calendar is Designed to Address the Following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offenders who, as a result of mental illness issues, enter the criminal justice system and serve custody in jail and subsequently prisons. Criminal activity is due in large part to their inability to conform to pro-social, non-criminal activities as a result of their mental illness and lack of supervision and support system.</li> <li>• Offenders with mental illness issues and co-occurring drug addiction problems who fail to successfully complete terms of probation.</li> <li>• Offenders with mental illness who are arrested and released and then arrested again without being assessed and treated for their issues.</li> <li>• Offenders with mental illness who can be diverted from jails into treatment.</li> </ul>
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