I. Purpose

A. To minimize the occupational exposure of all Alameda County Probation Department’s employees to Tuberculosis (TB).

B. To establish guidelines for the administration of an annual tuberculosis test.

II. Policy

All sworn and non-sworn staff of the Alameda County Probation Department shall be given the opportunity to test for exposure to tuberculosis on an annual basis. Testing will be offered on an on-duty basis. Personnel may elect to be tested by their own medical provider in an off-duty status.

III. Procedure

The Alameda County Probation Department’s Safety Coordinator and the Alameda County Risk Management shall jointly implement an annual tuberculosis testing program for the Probation Department’s employees.

A. The Tuberculin Test

1. This simple skin test can help to show whether you have been exposed to TB and/or have TB in your body.

2. The test site must be examined 48-72 hours later for the test to be valid. When the clinician has examined the test site, you will be told one of two things:

   a. Negative Reaction
      You have no reaction to the test; or you have a reaction that the clinician says is “negative” or “not significant.” This means that your body probably does not contain TB.

   b. Positive Reaction
      You have a reaction to the test that the clinician says is “positive” or “significant”. This does not mean that you have tuberculosis. It means that TB has entered your body. A “positive” or “significant” test by itself does not mean that others are at risk.

3. After the Test

   a. If you have a “negative” or “not significant” reaction, your skin test should be repeated annually.
b. If you are told you have a “positive” or “significant” reaction you may be required to have a chest x-ray. Any follow-up tests, treatment, etc., will be given by your medical provider or by your occupational health care provider.

B. If you have previously tested positive you will complete a health questionnaire which will be medically reviewed to determine what, if any, follow-up is necessary.

If an x-ray is required due to a previous positive screen, it will be done at County expense.