

# ASYLUM MEDICINE TRAINING INITIATIVE

## Asylum Evaluations in Detention Checklist

The purpose of this checklist is to provide evaluators with considerations to review prior to the evaluation, during and after, that may be unique to detention prisons. Please ensure that you have completed Modules 1-5 on how to conduct a forensic medical evaluation. Several helpful tools on how to prepare, collaborate with an attorney and write an affidavit are available within those modules.

### Pre-Interview Logistical Considerations

#### Access

- Arrange access to facility with legal team
- Complete background check/paperwork required by facility (may need to complete months-weeks in advance)
- Identify and confirm options for an interpreter at the facility (as needed for phone and in-person)
- Obtain contact information for at least one staff member at detention center

#### Communication in advance

- Ensure appropriate space is available (private)
- Confirm equipment/materials allowable in the facility
- Ask about timeline (how long you will have access to a private space)

### Interview Logistical Considerations (day of)

- Print out all communications and contact info for staff liaison
- Ensure you have directions and instructions on how to access and enter facility
- Come prepared with items for the exam and be willing to work around day-of changes (i.e. body diagrams if cameras aren't allowed, pen and paper, etc.)
- Be prepared to wait/be flexible with timing

### Remote Evaluations (if applicable)

- Ensure camera quality is adequate for evaluation and be prepared to improvise
- Confirm access to interpreter via video/phone (as needed)
- Check time limitation ahead of evaluation

### Writing the Affidavit

- Similar to process for non-detained clients
- If relevant, expand upon healthcare access within detention facility, new experiences of trauma in detention, and how detention impacts mental/physical health
- If appropriate, include literature on remote evaluations

### Testifying

- Similar to process for non-detained clients
- If relevant, include unique considerations for detention (i.e., privacy, lack of equipment, additional mental/physical health trauma, lack of interpretation, time constraints, client comfort level, video quality)

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Panopto. <https://pro.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?tid=d573b2a8-ccf1-4989-8c25-aebd01213d9a>