

Section: Division of Nursing

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**PROCEDURE**

Page: 1 of 1

Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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**MATERNAL SERVICES**

(Scope)

**TITLE: HANDLING RESTRAINING ORDER BETWEEN PARENTS AND NEONATE**

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**PURPOSE:** To outline the steps for safe visitation in cases of parental disputes, allowing parents to see and bond with their infant without compromising or violating any order of protection.

**LEVEL:** Interdependent

**SUPPORTIVE DATA:** Although parents may be unmarried or separated, parental rights need to be addressed within the limits of an order of protection.

**CONTENT**

1. Once it is established that a parent has an order of protection against the other parent:
  - a) Notify patient representative.
  - b) Notify social services
  - c) Notify Security
  - d) Obtain 2 copies of order and place 1 copy on infant chart and send 1 copy to security.
2. Both parents need to be reassured as to the safety of themselves and their baby.
3. Arrangements will be made as to the time the parent of the baby can come to visit. Actual location will be determined by administrator so as to keep within the boundaries of the order of protection. If visitation requires violation of physical boundaries of order (i.e. within 1000 ft) police officials will be notified and present at set violation.
4. Baby will be supervised by nursery staff during the visit, or social services if unit is busy. If parent verbalizes concerns over baby safety, administration will be notified of concerns and proper situational arrangements will be made.
5. Father of baby may sign birth certificate at this time or opt to come in after discharge of mother and baby.
6. Arrangements will be reassessed if parent is found to be unsuitable or poses a threat, real or supposed, to parent with restraining order or to baby.
7. Counseling or referrals to social service may be provided to patient and family as needed.

**REFERENCE:** AD 99a