DETENTION SERVICE ORDER 1/2007

Allegation of Torture forms

Introduction

Any allegations of torture made by detainees to staff (only for allegations outside the UK) should be recorded on the Home Office allegation of torture form. This order clarifies the procedure for dealing with the forms, and ensures compliance with DC rule 35 paragraphs 3 & 4.

Purpose

The purpose of this order is to ensure that all staff operating in an IRC are aware of the procedure for dealing with allegations of torture and the forms.

Procedures

Whilst it is expected that any allegations of torture will come to light during initial health care screening interviews carried out upon induction, the allegation of torture form should be available for any staff who come into contact with detainees and then the form should be passed onto health care staff within the removal centre. In all cases the person who discovers the allegation should fill in the detainee's details and enter their name and location into the first lines of the form.

The rest of the form should be filled in by healthcare staff, signed by the detainee and the completed form should be sent to the on site Immigration Service Manager (via the centre manager).

The Immigration Service Manager should then pass the form to the office managing the detainee's detention/case. A log should be kept of forms that are sent to detention/case holders offices, and the log should include a record of acknowledgement.

Any queries with this DSO should be addressed to Phil Schoenenberger on DPA

Alan Hollett Head of OSU Detention Services January 2007