

DSHS SCTF in Pierce County

The DSHS SCTF in Pierce County is securely designed with access in and out strictly controlled. Movement is monitored by staff and electronics including a closed circuit TV system.

No participant may leave the facility without a DSHS staff supervising and monitoring the resident's activities.

Participants cannot leave the facility without a pre-approved travel plan with a defined purpose which has been reviewed and authorized in advance of the scheduled travel.

DSHS staff who work at the SCTF in Pierce County are well trained in incident response and emergency procedures.

The SCTF works in close cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, including the Pierce County Sheriff, to better address public safety.

This cooperation extends to SCTF staff training, joint exercises, procedure development, as well as weekly and daily communication updates of escorted travels and activities in the community.

For more Information

To learn more about the Special Commitment Center and the Secure Community Transition Facilities, visit the program's Web site at:

<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/hrsa/scc>

Or write:

*Community Programs
Special Commitment Center*

*Department of Social
& Health Services*

P.O. Box 45322
Olympia, WA 98504-5322

**DSHS Secure Community
Transition Facility
in Pierce County**



Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services

SCC Special Commitment Center

DSHS 22-007 (5/07)

Washington State
Department of Social and Health Services
Special Commitment Center



*Secure Community Transition
Facility (SCTF)
in Pierce County*



Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services

SCC Special Commitment Center

Safety • Security • Treatment

DSHS Secure Community Transition Facility – Pierce County

Background

Washington State has a long history of leading the national effort to control and prevent sexual assault and to provide treatment for individuals who have been charged and convicted of sex offenses.

Washingtonians have made clear their intent to improve safety and to continue the search for more effective ways of achieving it.

The Special Commitment Center (SCC) was established by the legislature in 1990 in response to horrific sex crimes committed by convicted sex predators. The Department of Social and Health Services was assigned the responsibility to establish and manage the SCC.

Under state law (chapter 71.09 RCW) the SCC serves as a secure mental health treatment program, not a criminal justice program. A Superior Court is the only entity that can civilly commit predatory sex offenders to the SCC once they have completed their criminal court sentences.

The constitutionality of this approach was upheld by the United States Supreme Court (*Kansas v. Hendricks*) in 1997.

Facilities

The Special Commitment Center program has three residential facilities. McNeil Island is the location of the SCC total confinement facility and the program's Secure Community Transition Facility In Pierce County (SCTF). The SCTF in King County is located in Seattle.

Secure Community Transition Facility (SCTF)

The SCTF in Pierce County was established in 2001 to address the needs for community safety and the safe community transition for civilly committed sex offenders. The facility is located on McNeil Island, next to the SCC total confinement facility.

SCTF services include the safe transition and continued treatment of individuals released by the court from the Special Commitment Center. The SCTF provides specialized community transition plans, assessment evaluations of life skills and individual case management to facilitate community reintegration. Individual case management and life skills are tools used by persons residing at the SCTF to assist in managing risk factors while maximizing individual and public safety.

Four Phase Program

Each SCTF resident participates in a four phase program.

I - Basics

- Program Orientation
- Meeting Court Requirements
- Sex Offender Registration

II - Foundation

- Establishing Social Supports
- Acquiring Employment
- Establishing Financial Responsibility

III - Economic Independence

- Maintaining Personal Finances
- Identifying Residential Options
- Maintaining Employment

IV - Moving Out

- Maintaining Healthy Lifestyle
- Maintaining Community Placement
- Maintaining Employment with Reviews

Program participants learn to function successfully in society. SCTF staff provide the tools by working with the participant to develop customized community transition plans and provide assessment evaluations of life skills and individual case management. Residents use what they learn to manage risk factors while maximizing individual and public safety.