

*Dale Rogers Training Center*  
**Procedure for Involuntary/Voluntary Commitment**  
**EMERGENCY ORDER OF DETENTION**

In the event a person experiences a mental health crisis, the following information for involuntary/voluntary commitment to a state mental health facility will assist in navigating the process. This document is intended as a resource for staff, families and loved ones of a person who is experiencing a mental health crisis.

An Emergency Order of Detention (EOD) is a process under which a person is deemed to be a danger to self or others due to a diminished mental capacity. **You do not need a lawyer to initiate the commitment procedure.** To start the process, families/caregivers and/or staff call:

- Oklahoma County, the Oklahoma County Crisis Intervention Center 405-271-5050.
- Cleveland County, call Red Rock Behavioral Health Services at 405-573-6468.
- All other counties, call 911 to report the situation and get law enforcement involved.

Your call will be evaluated by a mental health professional based on one or more of the following criteria:

- a) person must be a danger to himself
- b) person must be a danger to someone else
- c) person has placed other people in reasonable fear of being harmed.
- d) without intervention person with a known mental health problem will continue to deteriorate and will soon present a danger to well-being or other; inability to care for himself and provide for basic needs.

An Emergency Order of Detention (EOD) is a process under which a person is deemed to be a danger to self or others due to a diminished mental capacity. Law enforcement must transport these individuals to the nearest medical facility for evaluation. Once at the medical facility, the officer must contact the mental health organization that contracts with the state Department of Mental Health to evaluate such cases. If the subject is deemed by the mental health professional to be a danger to self or others, arrangements are made to transport the subject to a facility with an open bed, for further evaluation. During the evaluation, the officer is required to stay with the subject who is "in custody". Finally, the subject is entitled to a court hearing within three days and the officer(s) must pick the individual up at the crisis facility and take him or her to court.

**Process:**

1. If there is sufficient reason, the facility will send an officer of the law to evaluate the situation. Officer will take a written statement. The caller must know where person is and must be prepared to either meet officer or come to the office to make a statement.

2. If the officer feels there is sufficient reason, the person will be examined by a licensed mental health professional either at the facility or private hospital to which admission has been arranged, if he or she is not already hospitalized at a psychiatric facility.

The mental health professional that evaluates the person must be a M.D., Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist or Doctor of Osteopathy, licensed clinical social worker or licensed professional counselor. Licensed mental health professional makes the final determination for detention.

In Oklahoma County, this will be Oklahoma County Crisis Intervention Center unless the family requests private care and can assume the cost of treatment.

In Cleveland County, this will be Red Rock Behavioral Services unless the family requests private care and can assume the cost of treatment.

3. Person will be taken to the detention facility for further observation for 72 hours; two licensed mental health professionals there will recommend one of three options:
  - a) A court hearing
  - b) Person agrees to stay voluntarily and no court hearing is needed.
  - c) Person is discharged.

4. If a mental health hearing is held for a person detained at the facility, the judge and public defender go to the facility to hear the case. If a mental health hearing is held for a person detained in a private facility, the hearing is held at the county courthouse.

After reviewing the person's medical records and hearing statements from the person, family and interested others, judge makes a determination. Person may be released or committed to hospital for not longer than 28 days.

5. During the 28-day commitment period the hospital may release person at any time it is felt that the person is no longer considered a danger to self or others. If they require hospitalization beyond 28 days, a second hearing is held and the person can be committed for an indefinite period.

The Crisis Intervention Center and Red Rock Behavioral Services are designed to help person and families through the commitment process.

### **Voluntary Admission**

People who wish to voluntarily admit themselves to Griffin Memorial Hospital should first contact the Crisis Center, Red Rock, or a community mental health center. The state hospital prefers people to be pre-screened at the local level.