

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H3/14/07 S3/22/07 S3/28/07

2 86th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2007

HOUSE BILL 2731

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5 By: Representative Medley

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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
10 SYSTEM CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE TO TRAIN AND
11 INSTRUCT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING
12 JAIL PERSONNEL, ON THE HANDLING OF PERSONS WITH
13 MENTAL ILLNESS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

16 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE UNIVERSITY OF
17 ARKANSAS SYSTEM CRIMINAL JUSTICE
18 INSTITUTE TO TRAIN AND INSTRUCT LAW
19 ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AND JAIL
20 PERSONNEL.

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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 64 is amended to add an
26 additional subchapter to read as follows:

27 6-64-1201. Definitions.

28 As used in this subchapter:

29 (1) "Community mental health centers" means those private non-
30 profit organizations certified by the Division of Behavioral Health under §
31 20-47-202 as community mental health centers and contracted to perform
32 designated public mental health services in the respective catchment areas of
33 the state;

34 (2) "Crisis Intervention Team" means a community-based
35 collaborative effort between law enforcement officers and jail personnel and
36 mental health professionals to help law enforcement officers and jail



1 personnel handle incidents involving persons with mental illness;

2 (3) "Inmate with mental illness" means a jail inmate who, after
3 being assessed by a person qualified by licensure to conduct an assessment,
4 meets the criteria for serious mental illness or is in danger of harm to self
5 or others;

6 (4) "Jail inmate" means a natural person who is in the custody
7 of law enforcement authorities within the confines of a county jail; and

8 (5) "Person with mental illness arrested by a law enforcement
9 officer" means a person who appears to be a danger to himself or herself or
10 to others or to need mental health evaluation for treatment.

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12 6-64-1202. Law Enforcement Training Committee -- Creation -- Duties.

13 (a) The Law Enforcement Training Committee is created to:

14 (1) Identify mental health training needs for law enforcement
15 officers; and

16 (2) Develop a mental health training curriculum for law
17 enforcement officers and jail personnel to be delivered statewide.

18 (b)(1) The committee shall be led by the Criminal Justice Institute of
19 the University of Arkansas System.

20 (2) The committee shall include representatives of:

21 (A) Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy;

22 (B) Research and Training Institute of the Division of
23 Behavioral Health;

24 (C) Arkansas Department of Community Correction;

25 (D) Mental Health Council;

26 (E) Administrative Office of the Courts;

27 (F) Local, state, and county law enforcement officers; and

28 (G) Mental health practitioners.

29 (c) The training and delivery strategies may consist of:

30 (1) Basic level training for law enforcement officers and jail
31 personnel to be included in the entry-level training program curricula;

32 (2) Advanced level training for law enforcement officers and
33 jail personnel that is designed to enhance the effectiveness of the response
34 of law enforcement officers and jail personnel to persons with mental
35 illness;

36 (3) Training, such as Crisis Intervention Team Training, that

1 includes methods for establishing a collaborative effort between law
2 enforcement personnel and the community to provide appropriate services to
3 those persons with mental illness who come into contact with the law
4 enforcement system;

5 (4) Establishment of regional training teams, consisting of
6 mental health and law enforcement officers; and

7 (5) A train-the-trainer model so that mental health training can
8 be provided in each county jail at frequent and regular intervals as needed
9 by a local person who has received formal training through curricula
10 developed under this subchapter.

11 (d) Crisis Intervention Teams shall be:

12 (1) Supported by state funding; and

13 (2) Provided initial assistance in organization.

14 (e)(1) Local police departments and sheriff departments may apply to
15 the Criminal Justice Institute for crisis intervention training under this
16 subchapter.

17 (2) The Crisis Intervention Team Training curriculum development
18 and delivery under subdivision (b)(3) of this section shall be supported by
19 state funding.

20 (f)(1) A graduate of the Crisis Intervention Team Training shall
21 provide the local department in which he or she serves with information and
22 materials obtained at the crisis intervention training.

23 (2)(A) Each department that sends law enforcement officers to
24 receive Crisis Intervention Team training shall convene a meeting at least
25 annually to review and improve the program in the department.

26 (B) The meeting shall include without limitation
27 representatives of:

28 (i) Local behavioral health service providers;

29 (ii) Community mental health centers within the
30 jurisdiction of the department;

31 (iii) Consumers;

32 (iv) Courts;

33 (v) National Alliance on Mental Illness; and

34 (vi) Local institutions of higher education,
35 including without limitation, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
36 and the Area Health Education Centers of the University of Arkansas for

1 Medical Sciences.

2 (f) The goal of the Crisis Intervention Team Training program is to
3 establish a collaborative effort between law enforcement officers and jail
4 personnel and the community to provide appropriate services to persons with
5 mental illness who come into contact with the law enforcement system.

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/s/ Medley

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