

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.

**Act 1013 of the Regular Session**

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

4  
5 By: Representative Medley

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8 **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.*

14  
15 **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*



1 mental health professionals to help law enforcement officers and jail  
2 personnel handle incidents involving persons with mental illness;

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

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

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

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13 6-64-1202. Law Enforcement Training Committee -- Creation -- Duties.

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

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

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

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

21 (2) The committee shall include representatives of:

22 (A) Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy;

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

25 (C) Arkansas Department of Community Correction;

26 (D) Mental Health Council;

27 (E) Administrative Office of the Courts;

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

29 (G) Mental health practitioners.

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

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

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

1           (3) Training, such as Crisis Intervention Team Training, that  
2 includes methods for establishing a collaborative effort between law  
3 enforcement personnel and the community to provide appropriate services to  
4 those persons with mental illness who come into contact with the law  
5 enforcement system;

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

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

12           (d) Crisis Intervention Teams shall be:

13                   (1) Supported by state funding; and

14                   (2) Provided initial assistance in organization.

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

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

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

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

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

29                           (i) Local behavioral health service providers;

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

32                           (iii) Consumers;

33                           (iv) Courts;

34                           (v) National Alliance on Mental Illness; and

35                           (vi) Local institutions of higher education,  
36 including without limitation, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

1 and the Area Health Education Centers of the University of Arkansas for  
2 Medical Sciences.

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

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/s/ Medley

APPROVED: 4/3/2007