

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  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 932

4  
5 By: Senator Salmon  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ADULT MALTREATMENT CUSTODY  
10 ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

12  
13 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ADULT MALTREATMENT  
14 CUSTODY ACT.  
15  
16

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
18

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 9 is amended to add an additional  
20 chapter to read as follows:

21 9-20-101. Title

22 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Adult  
23 Maltreatment Custody Act".  
24

25 9-20-102. --Purpose.

26 The purposes of this subchapter are to:

27 (1) Protect a maltreated adult or long-term care facility  
28 resident who is in imminent danger; and

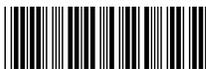
29 (2) Encourage the cooperation of state agencies and private  
30 providers in the service delivery system for maltreated adults.  
31

32 9-20-103. Definitions.

33 As used in this chapter:

34 (1) "Abuse" means:

35 (A) Any intentional and unnecessary physical act that  
36 inflicts pain on or causes injury to an endangered or impaired adult;



1                   (B) Any intentional or demeaning act that a reasonable  
2 person, regardless of age, ability to comprehend, or disability would believe  
3 subjects an endangered or impaired person to ridicule or psychological injury  
4 in a manner likely to provoke fear or alarm;

5                   (C) Any serious and realistic threat to inflict pain on or  
6 cause injury to an endangered or impaired adult; or

7                   (D) With regard to any adult resident of a long-term care  
8 facility:

9                   (i) Any willful infliction of injury, unreasonable  
10 confinement, intimidation, or punishment with resulting physical harm, pain,  
11 or mental anguish; or

12                   (iii) Any nursing act performed by a certified  
13 nursing assistant or other unlicensed person that has not been specifically  
14 delegated to that person in accordance with the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act,  
15 § 17-87-101 et seq., and any interpretations issued by the Arkansas State  
16 Board of Nursing.

17                   (2) "Adult maltreatment" means abuse, exploitation, neglect,  
18 physical abuse, or sexual abuse of an adult;

19                   (3) "Caregiver" means a related or unrelated person, owner,  
20 agent, high managerial agent of a public or private organization, or a public  
21 or private organization that has the responsibility for the protection, care,  
22 or custody of an endangered or impaired person as a result of assuming the  
23 responsibility voluntarily, by contract, through employment, or by order of  
24 the court;

25                   (4) "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

26                   (5) "Endangered adult" means:

27                   (A) An adult eighteen (18) years of age or older who:

28                   (i) Is found to be in a situation or condition that  
29 poses an imminent risk of death or serious bodily harm to that person; and

30                   (ii) Demonstrates a lack of capacity to comprehend  
31 the nature and consequences of remaining in that situation or condition; or

32                   (B) An adult resident of a long-term care facility who:

33                   (i) Is found to be in a situation or condition that  
34 poses an imminent risk of death or serious bodily harm to that person; and

35                   (ii) Demonstrates a lack of capacity to comprehend  
36 the nature and consequences of remaining in that situation or condition; or

1           (6) "Exploitation" means:

2           (A) The illegal or unauthorized use or management of an  
 3 endangered or impaired adult's funds, assets, or property or the use of an  
 4 endangered or impaired adult's person, power of attorney, or guardianship for  
 5 the profit or advantage of himself, herself, or another; or

6           (B) Misappropriation of property of an adult resident of a  
 7 long-term care facility, that is, the deliberate misplacement, exploitation,  
 8 or wrongful, temporary, or permanent use of a resident's belongings or money  
 9 without the resident's consent;

10          (7)(A) "Imminent danger to health or safety" means a situation  
 11 in which death or severe bodily injury could reasonably be expected to occur  
 12 without intervention.

13          (8)(A) "Impaired adult" means a person eighteen (18) years of  
 14 age or older who, as a result of mental or physical impairment, is unable to  
 15 protect himself or herself from abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, or  
 16 exploitation.

17          (B) For purposes of this chapter, residents of a long-term  
 18 care facility are presumed to be impaired persons;

19          (9) "Long-term care facility" means:

20           (A) A nursing home;

21           (B) A residential care facility;

22           (C) A post-acute head injury retraining and residential  
 23 facility;

24           (D) An assisted living facility;

25           (E) An intermediate care facility for the mentally  
 26 retarded; or

27           (F) Any facility that provides long-term medical or  
 28 personal care;

29          (10) "Long-term care facility resident" means a person eighteen  
 30 (18) years of age or older living in a long-term care facility;

31          (11) "Long-term care facility resident maltreatment" means  
 32 abuse, exploitation, neglect, physical abuse, or sexual abuse of an adult  
 33 resident of a long-term care facility;

34          (12) "Maltreated adult" means an adult who has been abused,  
 35 exploited, neglected, physically abused or sexually abused;

36          (13) "Neglect" means:

1                   (A) An act or omission by an endangered or impaired adult,  
2 for example, self-neglect; or

3                   (B) An intentional act or omission by a caregiver  
4 responsible for the care and supervision of an endangered or impaired adult  
5 constituting:

6                   (i) Negligently failing to provide necessary  
7 treatment, rehabilitation, care, food, clothing, shelter, supervision, or  
8 medical services to an endangered or impaired adult;

9                   (ii) Negligently failing to report health problems  
10 or changes in health problems or changes in the health condition of an  
11 endangered or impaired adult to the appropriate medical personnel;

12                   (iii) Negligently failing to carry out a prescribed  
13 treatment plan; or

14                   (iv) Failing to provide to an adult resident of a  
15 long-term care facility goods or services necessary to avoid physical harm,  
16 mental anguish, or mental illness as defined in regulations promulgated by  
17 the Office of Long-Term Care of the Division of Medical Services of the  
18 Department of Human Services;

19                   (14)(A) "Physical injury" means the impairment of a physical  
20 condition or the infliction of substantial pain.

21                   (B) If the person is an endangered or impaired adult,  
22 there is a presumption that any physical injury resulted in the infliction of  
23 substantial pain;

24                   (15)(A) "Protective services" means services to protect AN  
25 endangered or impaired adult from:

26                   (i) Self-neglect or self-abuse; or

27                   (ii) Abuse or neglect by others.

28                   (B) Protective services may include:

29                   (i) Evaluation of the need for services;

30                   (ii) Arrangements or referrals for appropriate  
31 services available in the community;

32                   (iii) Assistance in obtaining financial benefits to  
33 which the person is entitled; or

34                   (v) Referrals, as appropriate, to law enforcement or  
35 prosecutors.

36                   (16) "Resident of a long-term care facility" means a person

1 eighteen (18) years of age or older living in a long-term care facility;

2 (17) "Serious bodily harm" means physical abuse, sexual abuse,  
 3 physical injury, or serious physical injury;

4 (18) "Serious physical injury" means physical injury to an  
 5 endangered or impaired adult that:

6 (A) Creates a substantial risk of death

7 (B) Causes protracted disfigurement, protracted impairment  
 8 of health, or loss or protracted impairment of the function of any bodily  
 9 member or organ;

10 (19) "Sexual abuse" means deviate sexual activity, sexual  
 11 contact, or sexual intercourse, as those terms are defined in § 5-14-101,  
 12 with another person who is not the actor's spouse and who is incapable of  
 13 consent because he or she is mentally defective, mentally incapacitated, or  
 14 physically helpless, as those terms are defined in § 5-14-101; and

15 (20) "Subject of the report" means:

16 (A) The endangered or impaired adult;

17 (B) The adult's legal guardian; and

18 (C) The offender.

19  
 20 9-20-104. Spiritual treatment alone not abusive.

21 Nothing in this chapter implies that an endangered or impaired adult  
 22 who is being furnished with treatment by spiritual means alone through prayer  
 23 in accordance with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or  
 24 religious denomination by an accredited practitioner thereof, is for this  
 25 reason alone an endangered or impaired adult.

26  
 27 9-20-105. Privilege not grounds for exclusion of evidence.

28 Any privilege between husband and wife or between any professional  
 29 person, except lawyer and client, including, but not limited to, physicians,  
 30 members of the clergy, counselors, hospitals, clinics, rest homes, nursing  
 31 homes, and their clients, shall not constitute grounds for excluding evidence  
 32 at any proceedings regarding an endangered or impaired adult, or the cause of  
 33 the proceeding.

34  
 35 9-20-106. Immunity for investigation participants.

36 Any person, official, or institution participating in good faith in the

1 removal of a maltreated adult pursuant to this chapter shall have immunity  
 2 from liability and suit for damages, civil or criminal, that otherwise might  
 3 result by reason of such actions.

4  
 5 9-20-107. Reports as evidence.

6 (a) A written report from persons or officials required to report  
 7 under the Adult and Long-Term Care Facility Resident Maltreatment Act shall  
 8 be admissible in evidence in any proceeding relating to adult maltreatment or  
 9 long-term care facility resident maltreatment.

10 (b) The affidavit of a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or  
 11 licensed certified social worker shall be admissible in evidence in any  
 12 proceeding relating to adult maltreatment or long-term care facility resident  
 13 maltreatment.

14  
 15 9-20-108. Jurisdiction – Venue – Eligibility – Undocumented Persons.

16 (a)(1) The probate division of circuit court shall have jurisdiction  
 17 over proceedings for:

- 18 (a) Custody;
- 19 (B) Temporary custody for purposes of evaluation;
- 20 (C) Court-ordered protective services; or
- 21 (D) An order of investigation pursuant to this chapter.

22 (2) The probate division of circuit court shall retain  
 23 jurisdiction for one hundred and eighty (180) days after the death of an  
 24 adult in the custody of the Department of Human Services to enter orders  
 25 concerning disposition of any assets of the adult, including the ability to  
 26 order payment for services rendered or goods purchased by or for the adult  
 27 while in the custody of the Department of Human Services before the death of  
 28 the adult.

29 (b) A proceeding under this chapter shall be commenced in the probate  
 30 division of the circuit court of the county where:

- 31 (1) The maltreated adult resides; or
- 32 (2) The maltreatment occurred.

33 (c) Eligibility for services from the Department of Human Services,  
 34 including custody, for aliens and non-aliens shall be the same eligibility  
 35 requirements for the Arkansas Medical Assistance Program.

36 (d) No person may be taken into custody or placed in the custody of

1 the Department of Human Services under this section if that person is in need  
2 of:

- 3 (1) Acute psychiatric treatment;
- 4 (2) Chronic mental health treatment;
- 5 (3) Alcohol or drug abuse treatment;
- 6 (4) Protection from domestic abuse if that person is mentally  
7 competent; or
- 8 (5) Casework supervision by mental health professionals.

9 (f) No adult may be taken into custody or placed in the custody of the  
10 Department of Human Services for the sole purpose of consenting to the  
11 adult's medical treatment.

12  
13 9-20-109. Commencement of proceedings.

14 (a) Proceedings shall be commenced by filing a petition with the clerk  
15 of the probate division of the circuit court or by transfer by another court.

16 (b) Only the Department of Human Services may file a petition seeking  
17 ex parte emergency relief.

18 (c) No fees may be charged or collected by the clerk in cases brought  
19 by the department, including, but not limited to:

- 20 (1) Fees for filing;
- 21 (2) Summons; or
- 22 (3) Subpoenas.

23  
24 9-20-110. Petition.

25 A petition shall set forth the following:

26 (1) The name, address, and, if known, the date of birth of the  
27 maltreated adult who shall be designated as the respondent;

28 (2) The maltreated adult's current location;

29 (3) The name and address of the maltreated adult's closest adult  
30 relative, if known;

31 (4)(A) The facts intended to prove the person to be maltreated.

32 (B) The facts may be set out in an affidavit attached to  
33 the petition and incorporated into the petition; and

34 (5) The relief requested by the petitioner.

35  
36 9-20-111. Notification

1       (a) All maltreated adults named as the respondent shall be served with  
2 a copy of the petition under the Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure.

3       (b) The Department of Human Services shall provide immediate notice of  
4 the date, time, and location of the probable cause hearing to:

5             (1) The respondent;

6             (2) The person from whom physical custody of the respondent was  
7 removed; and

8             (3) Counsel for the respondent.

9       (c) The pleadings served on the respondent shall include a statement  
10 of the right to:

11            (1) Effective assistance of counsel;

12            (2) Be present at the hearing;

13            (3) Present evidence on the respondent's own behalf;

14            (4) Cross-examine witnesses who testify against him or her;

15            (5) Present witnesses in the respondent's own behalf;

16            (6) Remain silent; and

17            (7) View and copy all petitions, reports, and documents retained  
18 in the court file.

19       (d) Notice of the long-term custody hearing shall be given to:

20            (1) The legal counsel of the respondent;

21            (2) The next of kin of the respondent whose names and addresses  
22 are known to the petitioner;

23            (3) The person having physical custody of the respondent;

24            (4) Any person named in the petition; and

25            (5) Any other persons or entities as the court may require.

26  
27       9-20-112. Voluntary placement.

28       (a) Any adult may request voluntary protective placement under this  
29 chapter.

30       (b) No civil rights are relinquished as a result of voluntary  
31 protective placement.

32       (c) Procedures for hearings under this chapter shall be followed with  
33 regard to voluntary protective placement.

34  
35       9-20-113. Petition for evaluations.

36       (a) The Department of Human Services may petition the circuit court

1 for an order of temporary custody for the purpose of having an adult  
 2 evaluated if during the course of an investigation under the Adult and Long-  
 3 Term Care Facility Resident Maltreatment Act, § 12-12-1601, et seq., the  
 4 department determines that:

5 (i) The adult is in imminent danger of death or  
 6 serious bodily harm;

7 (ii) Available protective services have been offered  
 8 to alleviate the danger and have been refused; and

9 (iii) The adult's capacity to comprehend the nature  
 10 and consequences of remaining in the situation or condition cannot be  
 11 adequately assessed in the adult's place of residence.

12 (b) The circuit court, upon good cause being shown, may issue an order  
 13 for temporary custody for the purpose of having the adult evaluated.

14  
 15 9-20-114. Emergency custody.

16 (a) The Department of Human Services or a law enforcement official may  
 17 take a maltreated adult into emergency custody, or any person in charge of a  
 18 hospital or similar institution or any physician treating any maltreated  
 19 adult may keep the adult in custody, whether or not medical treatment is  
 20 required, if the circumstances or condition of the adult are such that  
 21 returning to or continuing at the adult's place of residence or in the care  
 22 or custody of a parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the adult's  
 23 care presents imminent danger to the adult's health or safety, and the adult  
 24 lacks the capacity to comprehend the nature and consequences of remaining in  
 25 a situation that presents imminent danger to his or her health or safety.

26 (b) Emergency custody shall not exceed seventy-two (72) hours, unless  
 27 the expiration of seventy-two (72) hours falls on a weekend or holiday in  
 28 which case emergency custody shall be extended through the next business day  
 29 following the weekend or holiday.

30 (c) A person who takes a maltreated adult into emergency custody shall  
 31 notify the department immediately upon taking the adult into emergency  
 32 custody.

33 (d) The department may release custody of an adult within the seventy-  
 34 two (72) hours if the adult is no longer in circumstances or conditions that  
 35 present imminent danger to the adult's health or safety.

36 (e)(1) If emergency custody is exercised under this section, the

1 person exercising the custody or the department may consent to having the  
 2 maltreated adult transported by a law enforcement officer or by ambulance if  
 3 medically appropriate, even if the adult objects.

4 (2) No court order shall be required for law enforcement or  
 5 ambulance transport.

6 (3) If an ambulance driver or company or a law enforcement  
 7 officer acts in good faith under this section, the immunity provisions of §  
 8 5-78-207 shall apply.

9 (4) The good faith of the ambulance driver or company or law  
 10 enforcement officer shall be presumed.

11  
 12 9-20-115. Emergency order of custody.

13 (a) If there is probable cause to believe that immediate emergency  
 14 custody is necessary to protect a maltreated adult, the probate division of  
 15 circuit court shall issue an ex parte order for emergency custody to protect  
 16 the maltreated adult.

17 (b) The Department of Human Services shall obtain an emergency ex  
 18 parte order of custody on a maltreated adult within the seventy-two (72)  
 19 hours of taking the maltreated adult into emergency custody unless the  
 20 expiration of seventy-two (72) hours falls on a weekend or holiday, in which  
 21 case emergency custody may be extended through the next business day  
 22 following the weekend or holiday.

23 (c) The emergency order shall include notice to the maltreated adult  
 24 and the person from whom physical custody of the respondent was removed of  
 25 the right to a hearing and that a hearing will be held within five (5)  
 26 business days of the issuance of the ex parte order.

27  
 28 9-20-116. Probable cause hearing.

29 (a) Following issuance of an emergency order, the probate division of  
 30 circuit court shall within five (5) business days hold a hearing to determine  
 31 whether probable cause to issue the emergency order continues to exist.

32 (b)(1) At the probable cause hearing, the court shall make the  
 33 following inquiries of the maltreated adult or other witnesses:

34 (A) Whether the maltreated adult has the financial ability  
 35 to retain counsel, and

36 (B) If the maltreated adult does not have the financial

1 ability to retain counsel, whether the maltreated adult is indigent.

2 (2) The court shall:

3 (A) Inform the maltreated adult of the right to effective  
 4 assistance of counsel; and

5 (B) If the maltreated adult is indigent, appoint counsel  
 6 for the maltreated adult.

7 (c) The hearing shall be limited to the purpose of determining whether  
 8 probable cause:

9 (1) Existed to protect the maltreated adult; and

10 (2) Still exists to protect the maltreated adult.

11 (d) The court may enter orders:

12 (1) Regarding protection of assets of the maltreated adult;

13 (2) Ordering or authorizing the Department of Human Services to  
 14 obtain treatment, evaluations or services for the maltreated adult.

15 (e) The probable cause hearing shall be a miscellaneous hearing.

16 (f)(1) Upon a finding of probable cause, the court may order temporary  
 17 custody for up to thirty (30) days pending the hearing for long-term custody.

18 (2) However, the court may extend the time under subdivision of  
 19 (f)(1) of this section upon a finding that extenuating circumstances exist.

20  
 21 9-20-117. Long-term custody an court-ordered protective services  
 22 hearings.

23 (a) A hearing for long-term custody or court-ordered protective  
 24 services shall be held no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the  
 25 probable cause hearing or the date the order for emergency custody was  
 26 signed.

27 (2) However, the probate division of circuit court may extend  
 28 the time during which the hearing must be held upon a finding that  
 29 extenuating circumstances exist.

30 (b) The court may hold a hearing for long-term custody or protective  
 31 services anywhere in the judicial district.

32 (e) The court may order long-term custody with the Department of Human  
 33 Services if the court determines that:

34 (1) The adult lacks the capacity to comprehend the nature and  
 35 consequences of remaining in a situation that presents an imminent danger to  
 36 his or her health or safety;

1           (2) The adult is unable to provide for his or her own protection  
2 from maltreatment; and

3           (3) The court finds clear and convincing evidence that the adult  
4 to be placed is in need of placement as provided in this chapter.

5           (f)(1) The court shall make a finding in connection with the  
6 determination of the least restrictive alternative to be considered proper  
7 under the circumstances, including A finding for non-institutional care if  
8 possible.

9           (2) If protective services are available to remedy the imminent  
10 danger to the maltreated adult, the court may order the adult or the  
11 caregiver for the adult to accept the protective services in lieu of placing  
12 the adult in the custody of the department.

13           (g)(1) The court may order that treatment, evaluations and services be  
14 obtained for the maltreated adult.

15           (2) However the court may not specify a particular provider for  
16 services or placement unless the adult is paying for the service or  
17 placement.

18  
19           9-20-118. Review hearings.

20           (a) The Department of Human Services shall periodically review the  
21 case of an adult in the custody of the department, but not less often than  
22 one (1) time every six (6) months.

23           (b) The court shall review the case of an adult in the custody of the  
24 department, either formally or informally as determined by the court, at  
25 least one (1) time every twelve (12) months.

26           (c) Notice for review hearings shall be by regular mail to the  
27 attorney for the respondent and to the administrator of the facility in which  
28 the respondent is placed.

29  
30           9-20-119. Assets of a maltreated adult.

31           (a)(1) The probate division of circuit court may enter orders as  
32 needed to identify, secure, and protect the assets of any adult in the  
33 custody of the Department of Human Services or any maltreated adult receiving  
34 court-ordered protective services from the department.

35           (2) If the court orders the adult placed in the custody of the  
36 department, the court shall address the issue of the adult's residence,

1 whether rented or owned by the adult, including, the cleaning, vacating,  
 2 selling or leasing of the residence and the disposition of the property in  
 3 the residence.

4 (3) After review of the assets, the court may order the sale of  
 5 any assets if it is in the best interests of the adult.

6 (b) The court may also direct payment from the assets of the adult in  
 7 department custody or receiving protective services from the department for  
 8 services rendered or goods purchased by or for the adult in the custody of  
 9 the department or receiving services from the department.

10 (c)(1) The court may appoint the department only as custodian of the  
 11 adult and not of the estate of the adult.

12 (2) The court has jurisdiction in this matter to hear and grant  
 13 a petition for guardianship of the estate of a adult in the custody of the  
 14 department.

15  
 16 9-20-120. Duties and responsibilities of custodian.

17 (a)(1) If the probate division of circuit court appoints the  
 18 Department of Human Services as the legal custodian of a maltreated adult,  
 19 the department shall:

20 (A) Secure care and maintenance for the person;

21 (B) Honor any advance directives, such as living wills, if  
 22 the legal documents were executed in conformity with applicable laws; and

23 (C) Find a person to be guardian of the estate of the  
 24 adult if a guardian of the estate is needed.

25 (2) If the court appoints the department as the legal custodian  
 26 of a maltreated adult, the department may:

27 (A) Consent to medical care for the adult;

28 (B) Obtain physical or psychological evaluations; and

29 (C) Obtain medical, financial, and other records of the  
 30 adult.

31 (b) The department, as custodian, shall not make any of the following  
 32 decisions without receiving express court approval:

33 (1) Consent to abortion, sterilization, psychosurgery, or  
 34 removal of bodily organs unless a procedure is necessary in a situation  
 35 threatening the life of the maltreated adult;

36 (2) Consent to withholding life-saving treatment;

1 (3) Authorize experimental medical procedures;

2 (4) Authorize termination of parental rights;

3 (5) Prohibit the adult from voting;

4 (6) Prohibit the adult from obtaining a driver's license;

5 (7) Consent to a settlement or compromise of any claim by or  
6 against the adult or his or her estate;

7 (8) Consent to the liquidation of assets of the adult, through  
8 such activities as an estate sale; or

9 (9) Amputation of any part of the body.

10  
11 9-20-221. Availability of custody and protective services records.

12 (a) Reports, correspondence, memoranda, case histories, medical  
13 records, or other materials compiled or gathered by the Department of Human  
14 Services regarding a maltreated adult in the custody of the department or  
15 receiving services from the department shall be confidential and shall not be  
16 released or otherwise made available except:

17 (1) To the maltreated adult;

18 (2) To the attorney representing the maltreated adult in a  
19 custody or protective services case;

20 (3) For any audit or similar activity conducted with the  
21 administration of any plan or program by any governmental agency that is  
22 authorized by law to conduct the audit or activity;

23 (4) To law enforcement agencies, a prosecuting attorney, or the  
24 Attorney General;

25 (5) To any licensing or registering authority to the extent  
26 necessary to carry out its official responsibilities.

27 (B) Information released under subdivision (5)(A) of this  
28 section shall be maintained as confidential;

29 (6) To a circuit court under this chapter;

30 (7) To a grand jury or court upon a finding that information in  
31 the record is necessary for the determination of an issue before the court or  
32 grand jury;

33 (8) To a person or provider currently providing care or services  
34 to the adult;

35 (9) To a person or provider identified by the department as  
36 having services needed by the adult;



1 ~~the event that the expiration of seventy two (72) hours falls on a weekend or~~  
 2 ~~holiday, in which case emergency custody may be extended through the next~~  
 3 ~~business day following the weekend or holiday.~~

4 ~~(C)—An emergency order shall include:~~

5 ~~(i)—Notice to the maltreated adult of the right to:~~

6 ~~(a)—A hearing and that the hearing will be~~  
 7 ~~held within five (5) business days of the issuance of the ex parte order and~~  
 8 ~~the date of the probable cause hearing, if known;~~

9 ~~(b)—Effective assistance of counsel; and~~

10 ~~(c)—Be present at the hearing; and~~

11 ~~(ii)—The location and telephone number of the court~~  
 12 ~~and the procedure for obtaining a hearing.~~

13 ~~(D)—Immediate notice of the emergency order shall be given~~  
 14 ~~by the petitioner or by the court to the respondent and the person from whom~~  
 15 ~~physical custody of the respondent was removed.~~

16 ~~(3)(A)(i)—When emergency custody is exercised pursuant to this~~  
 17 ~~section, the person exercising the custody or the department shall have~~  
 18 ~~authority to consent to having the maltreated adult transported by law~~  
 19 ~~enforcement or by ambulance if medically appropriate, even if the adult~~  
 20 ~~objects.~~

21 ~~(ii)—No court order shall be required for law~~  
 22 ~~enforcement or ambulance transport.~~

23 ~~(B)(i)—When an ambulance driver or company or law~~  
 24 ~~enforcement officer acts in good faith pursuant to this subdivision (a)(3),~~  
 25 ~~the immunity provisions of § 5-28-215 shall apply.~~

26 ~~(ii)—The good faith of the ambulance driver or~~  
 27 ~~company or law enforcement officer shall be presumed.~~

28 ~~(b)(1)—If the court grants the ex parte order of emergency custody, a~~  
 29 ~~hearing shall be held within five (5) working days to establish probable~~  
 30 ~~cause for grounds for temporary custody.~~

31 ~~(2)—The probable cause hearing shall be a miscellaneous hearing.~~

32 ~~(c)—Upon a finding of probable cause, the court may order temporary~~  
 33 ~~eustody for up to thirty (30) days pending the hearing for long term~~  
 34 ~~protective custody, unless the court extends the time upon a finding that~~  
 35 ~~extenuating circumstances exist.~~

36 ~~5-28-302. Voluntary placement.~~

1           ~~(a) Any person may request voluntary protective placement under this~~  
2 ~~chapter.~~

3           ~~(b) No civil rights are relinquished as a result of such placement.~~

4           ~~(c) Procedures for hearings pursuant to §§ 5-28-303, 5-28-304, and 5-~~  
5 ~~28-306 shall be followed.~~

6  
7           ~~5-28-303. Temporary custody.~~

8           ~~(a)(1) The Department of Human Services may file a petition requesting~~  
9 ~~the court to find that there is probable cause to place a maltreated adult in~~  
10 ~~temporary custody for a period of up to thirty (30) days, unless the court~~  
11 ~~extends the time upon a finding that extenuating circumstances exist.~~

12           ~~(2) This hearing shall be a miscellaneous hearing.~~

13           ~~(b) During the period the maltreated adult is in emergency or~~  
14 ~~temporary custody, the court may:~~

15           ~~(1) Order or authorize the department to obtain:~~

16           ~~(A) Medical treatment; or~~

17           ~~(B) Physical or psychological evaluations;~~

18           ~~(2) Issue orders regarding the adult's financial affairs; or~~

19           ~~(3) Order that a hearing for long term protective custody or~~  
20 ~~court-ordered protective services be held.~~

21  
22           ~~5-28-304. Long term custody — Notice — Court-ordered protective~~  
23 ~~services.~~

24           ~~(a)(1)(A) The Department of Human Services may file a petition~~  
25 ~~requesting that a maltreated adult be placed in the department's long term~~  
26 ~~protective custody.~~

27           ~~(B) Alternatively, or in combination with a petition for~~  
28 ~~emergency or temporary custody, the department may file a petition for court-~~  
29 ~~ordered protective services requesting that the maltreated adult or the~~  
30 ~~primary caregiver of the adult be ordered to accept protective services in~~  
31 ~~the adult's home environment in lieu of being placed in protective custody.~~

32           ~~(2) The petition requesting long term protective custody or~~  
33 ~~court-ordered protective services may be combined with the petition~~  
34 ~~requesting emergency or temporary custody.~~

35           ~~(b) If the respondent is not represented by counsel, notice of a~~  
36 ~~petition for long term protective custody or court-ordered protective~~

1 ~~services shall be served upon the respondent at least seven (7) calendar days~~  
 2 ~~prior to the time set for a hearing.~~

3 ~~(c) Notice of the respondent's rights shall be served upon the~~  
 4 ~~respondent at least seven (7) calendar days before the long term protective~~  
 5 ~~custody hearing and may be contained in the notice provided to the respondent~~  
 6 ~~for the probable cause hearing or temporary hearing.~~

7 ~~(d) The respondent shall be advised of the following rights:~~

8 ~~(1) The right to effective assistance of counsel;~~

9 ~~(2) The right to be present at the hearing;~~

10 ~~(3) The right to present evidence on the respondent's own~~  
 11 ~~behalf;~~

12 ~~(4) The right to cross examine witnesses who testify against him~~  
 13 ~~or her;~~

14 ~~(5) The right to present witnesses in the respondent's own~~  
 15 ~~behalf;~~

16 ~~(6) The right to remain silent; and~~

17 ~~(7) The right to view and copy all petitions, reports, and~~  
 18 ~~documents retained in the court file.~~

19 ~~(e) The person or persons serving the notice shall return the~~  
 20 ~~certificate of service to the court verifying that the petition, the order~~  
 21 ~~for hearing, and a statement of the rights in subsection (d) of this section~~  
 22 ~~have been delivered and notice given.~~

23 ~~(f) Notice of the long term protective custody hearing shall be given~~  
 24 ~~to:~~

25 ~~(1) The legal counsel of the respondent;~~

26 ~~(2) The next of kin of the respondent whose names and addresses~~  
 27 ~~are known to the petitioner;~~

28 ~~(3) The person having physical custody of the respondent;~~

29 ~~(4) Any person named in the petition; and~~

30 ~~(5) Any other persons or entities as the court may~~  
 31 ~~require.~~

32 ~~(g) The circuit clerk shall not charge or collect a filing fee from~~  
 33 ~~the department when it files a petition for:~~

34 ~~(1) Emergency, temporary, or long term protective custody;~~

35 ~~(2) Temporary custody for purposes of evaluation;~~

36 ~~(3) Court ordered protective services; or~~

1           ~~(4) An order of investigation.~~

2  
3           ~~5-28 305. Contents of petition.~~

4           ~~The petition shall set forth the following:~~

5           ~~(1) The name, address, and, if known, the date of birth of the~~  
6 ~~abused, neglected, or exploited adult;~~

7           ~~(2) The abused, neglected, or exploited adult's current~~  
8 ~~location;~~

9           ~~(3) The name and address of the abused, neglected, or exploited~~  
10 ~~adult's closest adult relative, if known;~~

11           ~~(4)(A) The facts which, if proven, cause the person to be an~~  
12 ~~abused, neglected, or exploited adult.~~

13           ~~(B) The facts may be set out in an affidavit attached to~~  
14 ~~the petition and incorporated therein; and~~

15           ~~(5) The relief requested by the petitioner.~~

16  
17           ~~5-28 306. Long term protective custody—Hearing—Placement—Appeal.~~

18           ~~(a) A hearing for long term protective custody or court ordered~~  
19 ~~protective services shall be no later than thirty (30) days from the date of~~  
20 ~~the probable cause hearing or the date the order for emergency or temporary~~  
21 ~~eustody was signed, unless the court extends the time in which the hearing~~  
22 ~~must be held upon a finding that extenuating circumstances exist.~~

23           ~~(b) The court may hold a hearing for long term protective custody or~~  
24 ~~court ordered protective services anywhere in the judicial district.~~

25           ~~(c)(1) The court shall make a finding in connection with the~~  
26 ~~determination of the least restrictive alternative to be considered proper~~  
27 ~~under the circumstances, including the finding for noninstitutional care~~  
28 ~~wherever possible.~~

29           ~~(2) Where there are protective services available to remedy the~~  
30 ~~imminent danger to the maltreated adult, the court may order the adult or the~~  
31 ~~caregiver for the adult to accept the protective services in lieu of placing~~  
32 ~~the adult in protective custody.~~

33           ~~(d) In the order, the court shall specify:~~

34           ~~(1) The placement or care plan to be followed;~~

35           ~~(2) The reason for the placement or care to be given;~~

36           ~~(3) The scope and duration of the order;~~

1           ~~(4) That the Department of Human Services periodically review~~  
2 ~~the case every six (6) months or more frequently if warranted;~~

3           ~~(5) That the department monitor the protective services being~~  
4 ~~received in lieu of protective custody as often as is necessary to prevent~~  
5 ~~the recurrence of the danger; and~~

6           ~~(6)(A) The requirement of judicial review of the case, either~~  
7 ~~formal or informal as determined by the court, at least one (1) time a year.~~

8           ~~(B) Notice for review hearings shall be by regular mail to~~  
9 ~~the attorney for the respondent and to the administrator of the facility in~~  
10 ~~which the respondent is placed.~~

11          ~~(c) No long term protective custody may be ordered unless there is a~~  
12 ~~determination by the court that:~~

13           ~~(1) The adult is lacking the capacity to comprehend the nature~~  
14 ~~and consequences of remaining in a situation that presents an imminent danger~~  
15 ~~to his or her health or safety;~~

16           ~~(2) The adult is unable to provide for his or her own protection~~  
17 ~~from maltreatment; and~~

18           ~~(3) The court finds clear and convincing evidence that the adult~~  
19 ~~to be placed is in need of placement as provided in this chapter.~~

20          ~~(f) Placement may be in facilities such as nursing homes, boarding~~  
21 ~~homes, medical institutions, foster care services, or other facilities that~~  
22 ~~provide either medical or personal supervision.~~

23          ~~(g)(1) Placement under this section does not replace commitment of a~~  
24 ~~person in need of:~~

25           ~~(A) Acute psychiatric treatment;~~

26           ~~(B) Chronic mental health treatment; or~~

27           ~~(C) Alcohol or drug abuse treatment.~~

28          ~~(2) Placement under this section does not apply to domestic~~  
29 ~~abuse of mentally competent persons or persons needing casework supervision~~  
30 ~~by mental health professionals.~~

31          ~~(3) No adult shall be placed in the custody of the department~~  
32 ~~for the sole purpose of consenting to the adult's medical treatment.~~

33          ~~(h) Any person aggrieved by any order for long term protective custody~~  
34 ~~or for court ordered protective services may appeal to a court of competent~~  
35 ~~jurisdiction in the manner and procedures now provided by law.~~

36

~~5-28 307. Protection of assets of a maltreated adult.~~

~~(a)(1) The circuit court shall have the authority to enter orders, as needed, to identify, secure, and protect the assets of any person in the custody of the Department of Human Services or any maltreated adult receiving court-ordered protective services from the department.~~

~~(2) The court, after review of the assets, may order the sale of any assets if it is in the best interests of the maltreated adult.~~

~~(b) The court shall also have the authority to direct payment from the assets of the person in department custody or receiving protective services from the department for services rendered or goods purchased by or for the person in the custody of the department or receiving services from the department.~~

~~(c)(1) The court may appoint only the department as custodian of the person and not the estate of the person.~~

~~(2) The court has jurisdiction in this matter to hear and grant a petition for guardianship of the estate of a person in the custody of the department.~~

~~5-28 308. Jurisdiction—Custody proceedings.~~

~~The probate division of circuit court shall have jurisdiction over proceedings for temporary and long-term protective custody, for court-ordered protective services, or for an order of investigation pursuant to this chapter.~~

~~5-28 309. Duties and responsibilities of custodian.~~

~~(a)(1) If the court appoints the Department of Human Services as the legal custodian of a maltreated adult, the department shall:~~

~~(A) Secure care and maintenance for the person;~~

~~(B) Honor any advance directives, such as living wills, if the legal documents were executed in conformity with applicable laws; and~~

~~(C) Find a person to be guardian of the estate of the person if a guardian of the estate is needed.~~

~~(2) If the court appoints the department as the legal custodian of a maltreated adult, the department may:~~

~~(A) Consent to medical care for the person;~~

~~(B) Obtain physical or psychological evaluations; and~~

1                   ~~(C) Obtain medical, financial, and other records of the~~  
2 ~~person.~~

3           ~~(b) The department, as custodian, may not make any of the following~~  
4 ~~decisions without receiving express court approval:~~

5                   ~~(1) Consent to abortion, sterilization, psychosurgery, or~~  
6 ~~removal of bodily organs except when necessary in a situation threatening the~~  
7 ~~life of the incapacitated person;~~

8                   ~~(2) Consent to withholding life-saving treatment;~~

9                   ~~(3) Authorize experimental medical procedures;~~

10                  ~~(4) Authorize termination of parental rights;~~

11                  ~~(5) Prohibit the person from voting;~~

12                  ~~(6) Prohibit the person from obtaining a driver's license;~~

13                  ~~(7) Consent to a settlement or compromise of any claim by or~~  
14 ~~against the person or his or her estate; or~~

15                  ~~(8) Consent to the liquidation of assets of the person, such as~~  
16 ~~an estate sale.~~

17  
18           ~~5-28 310. Availability of custody and protective services records.~~

19           ~~(a) Reports, correspondence, memoranda, case histories, medical~~  
20 ~~records, or other materials compiled or gathered by the Department of Human~~  
21 ~~Services regarding a maltreated adult in the custody of the department or~~  
22 ~~receiving services from the department shall be confidential and shall not be~~  
23 ~~released or otherwise made available except:~~

24                   ~~(1) To the maltreated person;~~

25                   ~~(2) To the attorney representing the maltreated person in a~~  
26 ~~custody or protective services case;~~

27                   ~~(3) For any audit or similar activity conducted with the~~  
28 ~~administration of any plan or program by any governmental agency which is~~  
29 ~~authorized by law to conduct the audit or activity;~~

30                   ~~(4) To law enforcement agencies, a prosecuting attorney, or the~~  
31 ~~Attorney General;~~

32                   ~~(5) To any licensing or registering authority to the extent~~  
33 ~~necessary to carry out its official responsibilities, but the information~~  
34 ~~shall be maintained as confidential;~~

35                   ~~(6) To a circuit court under this chapter;~~

36                   ~~(7) To a grand jury or court upon a finding that information in~~

1 ~~the record is necessary for the determination of an issue before the court or~~  
2 ~~grand jury;~~

3 ~~(8) To a person or provider currently providing care or services~~  
4 ~~to the maltreated adult; and~~

5 ~~(9)(A) To individual federal and state representatives and~~  
6 ~~senators with no redisclosure of information.~~

7 ~~(B) No disclosure shall be made to any committee or~~  
8 ~~legislative body of any information that identifies by name or address any~~  
9 ~~recipient of services.~~

10 ~~(b) No person or agency to whom disclosure is made may disclose to any~~  
11 ~~other person reports or other information obtained under this section.~~

12 ~~(c) A disclosure of information in violation of this section shall be~~  
13 ~~a Class C misdemeanor.~~

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