

Instructions for completing a petition for Involuntary Commitment

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT

This petition is for a mental health evaluation and the individual could be committed to a state facility, such as Bryce Hospital, through this process. If it goes to a court hearing with a judge, you must be present to testify at the hearing (hearings will be held at the hospital). The individual must be a danger to themselves or others due to a severe mental illness (not due to drug or alcohol abuse). We are not an emergency process, so the pickup times can be 30-45 days or longer. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are seeing longer than usual wait times before individuals are picked up and placed in the hospital.

Page One:

Petitioner (individual who is filing the petition) personal contact information

*PLEASE PROVIDE GOOD CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS (this is so the Probate Office and appointed attorneys can get in contact with you.

**You can have up to two petitioners, but both must have witnessed the behavior in the last 30 days and both petitioners must sign the petition in front of a notary (on pages three and four)

Page Two:

Respondent (individual whom you are filing on)

Comes now [Petitioner's name]

Take into custody [Respondent's name]

Approximate height and weight of respondent and demographic info

Current full address of respondent _____

**This information is critical for a pickup to be done; we must know where the individual resides. The individual must be physically located in Jefferson County at a residence, a hospital in Jefferson County or a Jail in Jefferson County. If the location is unknown, we will not be able to proceed.

Petitioner's relationship to the respondent _____

Then you will give your WRITTEN testimony of how you have witnessed the respondent be a danger to themselves and/or others in the last 30 days only. It must be handwritten. Other supporting documents can be attached.

Page Three:

Sign in both indicated places IN FRONT OF A NOTARY. This document must be notarized to be valid. Please present your picture id to the notary.

Page Four:

Pauper's Oath

This form is stating you want the state to cover the cost of court fees and attorney fees. If this document is not completed, you will be responsible for all court fees and attorney fees and will have to pay it up front. This also must be signed IN FRONT OF A NOTARY.

In the matter of the commitment of
 [Respondent's name]

Before me, the undersigned a notary public in said county and said state
personally appeared before me
 [Petitioner's name]

You then must sign (in front of the notary) on the line below.

Pages Five & Six:

Fill out all personal demographic information on the respondent to the best of your ability. **We must have the individual's date of birth, social security number, and insurance information (this includes policy numbers) to proceed with the process.** We will not be able to place an individual if you do not provide us with critical information.

This can be left in the Probate Court drop box between the hours of 8:00-4:00pm, Monday through Friday. If you have any questions, feel free to leave a message at 325-5009 and someone will be in contact with you.

Your petition can be emailed to the following address:

petitions@jbsmha.com