

26 1. A circuit or county court may enter an ex parte order
27 stating that a person appears to meet the criteria for
28 involuntary examination and specifying the findings on which
29 that conclusion is based. The ex parte order for involuntary
30 examination must be based on written or oral sworn testimony
31 that includes specific facts that support the findings. If other
32 less restrictive means are not available, such as voluntary
33 appearance for outpatient evaluation, a law enforcement officer,
34 or other designated agent of the court, shall take the person
35 into custody and deliver him or her to an appropriate, or the
36 nearest, facility within the designated receiving system
37 pursuant to s. 394.462 for involuntary examination. The order of
38 the court shall be made a part of the patient's clinical record.
39 A fee may not be charged for the filing of an order under this
40 subsection. A facility accepting the patient based on this order
41 must send a copy of the order to the department within 5 working
42 days. The order may be submitted electronically through existing
43 data systems, if available. The order shall be valid only until
44 the person is delivered to the facility or for the period
45 specified in the order itself, whichever comes first. If a time
46 limit is not specified in the order, the order is valid for 7
47 days after the date that the order was signed.

48 2. A law enforcement officer shall take a person who
49 appears to meet the criteria for involuntary examination into
50 custody and deliver the person or have him or her delivered to

51 an appropriate, or the nearest, facility within the designated
52 receiving system pursuant to s. 394.462 for examination. A law
53 enforcement officer transporting a person pursuant to this
54 subparagraph shall restrain the person in the least restrictive
55 manner available and appropriate under the circumstances. If
56 transporting a minor and the parent or legal guardian of the
57 minor is present, before departing, the law enforcement officer
58 shall provide the parent or legal guardian of the minor with the
59 name, address, and contact information for the facility within
60 the designated receiving system to which the law enforcement
61 officer is transporting the minor. The officer shall execute a
62 written report detailing the circumstances under which the
63 person was taken into custody, which must be made a part of the
64 patient's clinical record. The report must include all emergency
65 contact information for the person that is readily accessible to
66 the law enforcement officer, including information available
67 through electronic databases maintained by the Department of Law
68 Enforcement or by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
69 Vehicles. Such emergency contact information may be used by a
70 receiving facility only for the purpose of informing listed
71 emergency contacts of a patient's whereabouts pursuant to s.
72 119.0712(2)(d). Any facility accepting the patient based on this
73 report must send a copy of the report to the department within 5
74 working days.

75 3. A physician, a physician assistant, a clinical

76 | psychologist, a psychiatric nurse, an advanced practice
77 | registered nurse registered under s. 464.0123, a mental health
78 | counselor, a marriage and family therapist, or a clinical social
79 | worker may execute a certificate stating that he or she has
80 | examined a person within the preceding 48 hours and finds that
81 | the person appears to meet the criteria for involuntary
82 | examination and stating the observations upon which that
83 | conclusion is based. If other less restrictive means, such as
84 | voluntary appearance for outpatient evaluation, are not
85 | available, a law enforcement officer shall take into custody the
86 | person named in the certificate and deliver him or her to the
87 | appropriate, or nearest, facility within the designated
88 | receiving system pursuant to s. 394.462 for involuntary
89 | examination. The law enforcement officer shall execute a written
90 | report detailing the circumstances under which the person was
91 | taken into custody. The report must include all emergency
92 | contact information for the person that is readily accessible to
93 | the law enforcement officer, including information available
94 | through electronic databases maintained by the Department of Law
95 | Enforcement or by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
96 | Vehicles. Such emergency contact information may be used by a
97 | receiving facility only for the purpose of informing listed
98 | emergency contacts of a patient's whereabouts pursuant to s.
99 | 119.0712(2)(d). The report and certificate shall be made a part
100 | of the patient's clinical record. Any facility accepting the

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101 patient based on this certificate must send a copy of the
102 certificate to the department within 5 working days. The
103 document may be submitted electronically through existing data
104 systems, if applicable.

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106 When sending the order, report, or certificate to the
107 department, a facility shall, at a minimum, provide information
108 about which action was taken regarding the patient under
109 paragraph (g), which information shall also be made a part of
110 the patient's clinical record.

111 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 394.4785, Florida
112 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (3), and a new subsection
113 (2) is added to that section to read:

114 394.4785 Children and adolescents; admission and placement
115 in mental facilities.—

116 (2) A crisis stabilization unit that admits children and
117 adults must have a waiting area for children that is physically
118 separate from any waiting area used by adults.

119 Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 365.179, Florida
120 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (6) and amended,
121 subsection (1) is amended, and a new subsection (5) is added to
122 that section, to read:

123 365.179 Direct radio communication between 911 public
124 safety answering points and first responders.—

125 (1) As used in this section, the term:

126 (a) "First responder agency" includes each law enforcement
 127 agency and fire service agency, other than a state agency, and
 128 each emergency medical services provider, that is designated as
 129 a primary first responder for the service area in which a 911
 130 public safety answering point receives 911 calls.

131 (b) "Mobile response team" means a team established under
 132 s. 394.495(7).

133 (c)-(b) "911 public safety answering point" or "PSAP" means
 134 a municipal or county emergency communications or 911 call
 135 center in this state that receives cellular, landline, or text-
 136 to-911 communications.

137 (5) Each sheriff shall develop and implement written
 138 agreements with all providers of mobile response teams within
 139 the county. The written agreements shall specify the protocols
 140 and methods for dispatching mobile response teams when the PSAP
 141 receives a call regarding a behavioral health emergency for a
 142 child or adolescent. If the PSAP determines that a mobile
 143 response team is the most appropriate responder to a child or
 144 adolescent's behavioral health emergency, the PSAP must dispatch
 145 the mobile response team as the primary responder unless the
 146 mobile response team is not available.

147 (6)-(5) Each primary first responder agency, PSAP, mobile
 148 response team, and dispatch center within each county shall
 149 train all applicable personnel regarding the procedures and
 150 protocols specified in the ~~interlocal~~ agreements made pursuant

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151 | to this section. This training shall also include radio
152 | functionality and how to readily access the necessary dispatch
153 | channels in accordance with the interlocal agreements, and, if
154 | appropriate, agreements with mobile response teams.

155 | Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.