

# Mental Health Court

## *Transfer Instructions from Limited Jurisdiction Courts*

We look forward to collaborating with your court in the expansion of the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court's Mental Health Court. The Mental Health Court is intended for chronic thought disordered individuals who struggle to stay out of the criminal justice system, often because they are not medicated. In order to be eligible for the Mental Health Court, participants must have a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) including Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Major Depression Disorder or Chronic Severe Anxiety.

The process for referrals to the Mental Health Court is as follows:

1. **Referral:** A case is referred from justice, municipal, and outlying courts. Attached is the Mental Health Court Referral form, to be emailed to [specialtycourts@clarkcountycourts.us](mailto:specialtycourts@clarkcountycourts.us).
2. **Order Transferring Jurisdiction:** The limited jurisdiction court must sign the *Order Transferring Jurisdiction* (attached) which will be effective upon the District Court signing the *Notice of Approval*. The limited jurisdiction court should also:
  - (1) **First Appearance:** List the first Mental Health Calendar date of Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. (The DC Court will actually set it on calendar in Odyssey when the DC case number is assigned upon acceptance).
  - (2) **Status Check:** Set the matter for a status check in the limited jurisdiction court for purposes of reviewing acceptance/*Notice of Approval* by the District Court MHC.
  - (3) **Charging Documents:** The referral must include charging documents from the referring court, to include the complaint, transcripts/minutes, arrest warrant, and police reports.
3. **Case Review:** The MHC Coordinator will review the referral, the applicant's records, and the applicant's criminal history for eligibility. The DA and PD's office will be contacted for input and the case will be staffed for placement and treatment with Mojave or SNAMH (treatment providers) to determine if placement is available.
  - (1) **Notice of Approval:** Upon acceptance, the District Court will notify the limited jurisdiction court that the case has been accepted into the Mental Health Court program with the attached *Notice of Approval*, which will be sent to the referring court clerk.
  - (2) **Calendar:** The case will be confirmed as calendared for 1<sup>st</sup> Appearance in MHC.

Sample forms in WORD are provided for your use; they will need to be customized to each court.

If you have questions or would like to discuss this process, please contact the Specialty Courts' Manager, Margaret Pickard, Esq. at (702) 671-4505.