

**ZIP CODES AND  
MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS**

29601 Greenville Mental Health Center  
29611 Greenville Mental Health Center  
\*29605 Greenville Mental Health Center  
\*29607 Greenville Mental Health Center  
29609 Greenville Mental Health Center  
29690 Greenville Mental Health Center  
29661 Greenville Mental Health Center  
29613 Greenville Mental Health Center  
\*29615 Greenville Mental Health Center  
29617 Greenville Mental Health Center  
29650 Greer Mental Health Center  
29651 Greer Mental Health Center  
29652 Greer Mental Health Center  
\*29687 Greer Mental Health Center  
29680 Piedmont Mental Health Center  
29681 Piedmont Mental Health Center  
29662 Piedmont Mental Health Center  
29644 Piedmont Mental Health Center  
\*29673 Piedmont Mental Health Center  
29669 Piedmont Mental Health Center

\* Call mental health center to ensure that this is the appropriate facility as this zip code is shared with another facility

**Greenville Mental Health Center**

Phone: (864) 241-1040

**Piedmont Center for Mental Health Services**

(Greer) Phone: (864) 879-2111

**Piedmont Center for Mental Health Services**

(Simpsonville) Phone: (864) 963-3421

**Greenville County Alcohol and Drug**

**Abuse Commission (Phoenix Center)**

Phone: (864) 467-3913

**Crisisline**

Phone: (864) 271-8888

□ This brochure is intended to be a general guide to persons who need assistance in commitment proceedings. It is not intended to be a complete explanation of the law. If you need further assistance, you are advised to seek legal counsel of your choice.

□ **WHAT IS  
INVOLUNTARY  
COMMITMENT?**

If you have personal knowledge of an adult or child who suffers from mental illness or chemical dependence (alcohol or drug addiction) who is endangering himself or others and is unwilling to get help, the person may need involuntary commitment at a facility for treatment. Only a mental health professional, i.e. medical doctor, can determine whether or not commitment is necessary.

**Probate Court Contacts:**

Tammy G. Douglas, Judicial Assistant  
(864) 467-7085

Hope Barbrey, Judicial Assistant  
(864) 467-7172

**Procedures for  
Commitment of the  
Mentally Ill or  
Chemically Dependent  
Person**



*Greenville County Probate Court  
1200 Greenville County Square  
301 University Ridge  
Suite 5600 Probate Court Annex  
Greenville, SC 29601  
Phone: (864) 467-7085  
Toll Free: 1-877-55COURT*

Website: [www.greenvillego.org/probate](http://www.greenvillego.org/probate)

*Debora A. Faulkner  
Probate Judge*

*Edward M. (Ted) Sauvain  
Associate Probate Judge*

## PROCEDURES FOR COMMITMENT

### **ADULT (A person 18 years old or older or a child sixteen years of age or older):**

If you know a person, mentally ill, needing EMERGENCY COMMITMENT because of harm to self or others, contact the local mental health center that covers the geographic region of the alleged mentally ill or chemically dependent person. This is determined by the zip code of the person needing treatment. (See the section of this brochure entitled **Zip Codes and Mental Health Centers**) **DO NOT COME TO THE PROBATE COURT FIRST; GO TO THE APPROPRIATE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER BEFORE COMING TO PROBATE COURT.** The Probate Court can only assist after the Mental Health Center has done an initial screening.

If the Adult is seen by the Mental Health Center and it is determined that hospitalization is required, the Adult can be transported to a facility. If the Adult refuses to come to the Mental Health Center for an evaluation, then you may bring the necessary document issued to you from the Mental Health Center to the Probate Court and seek an Order of Detention. **YOU MUST KNOW THE LOCATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL!** Law Enforcement cannot pick up the person without an address. It is also helpful if you know whether the person is in the County or municipality within Greenville County (such as Greer, Greenville, etc.).

Upon finding that the individual needs hospitalization, he or she will be transported to a facility for treatment. The individual will be assigned an attorney by the Probate Court and will have a hearing within 15 days after the

Order of Continued Hospitalization to determine whether he or she will need further inpatient treatment or whether the person can be released to outpatient treatment. If so desired, individuals may hire private counsel.

When Involuntary Commitment is not needed on an emergency basis, you must go to the Mental Health Center to complete documents for a JUDICIAL COMMITMENT. This is appropriate for situations where the individual is engaged in a pattern of behavior that will likely cause harm to himself or others. The individual can be brought in by law enforcement if necessary for the evaluation.

If the examiners find that involuntary treatment is required, a hearing is scheduled to decide whether or not the individual needs treatment in a hospital or as an outpatient. In either type of commitment, the Court may order inpatient, outpatient, or a combination of treatments.

### **WHAT IF THE PATIENT IS IN JAIL?**

**THE PROBATE COURT CANNOT ARRANGE TO HAVE ANYONE EXAMINED WHO IS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE GREENVILLE COUNTY DETENTION CENTER.** Applicant or family member should contact the Detention Center at 467-2300 to request that the patient be seen by the medical team on staff at the jail.

### **CHILDREN:**

A child under the age of sixteen can receive treatment upon the consent of the legal custodian. If a child will not cooperate with the parent in obtaining treatment, the same

procedures outlined in the ADULT section must be followed. In most respects Children ages 16 and older are treated as adults and can seek admittance at a facility for treatment.

### **AREA HOSPITALS:**

Carolina Center for Behavioral Health  
SpringBrook Behavioral Healthcare System  
Marshall I. Pickens, GHS  
Patrick B. Harris Psychiatric Hospital

### **WHAT ABOUT EMERGENCIES ON EVENINGS, WEEKENDS, & HOLIDAYS?**

If you have an emergency situation that occurs outside normal working hours, you need to call **CRISISLINE** at **271-8888**. A person will talk with you and advise you of the procedures in order to get help for the person in need of assistance.

### **WHAT ABOUT PATIENTS OF PRIVATE PSYCHIATRISTS?**

If you know a person, mentally ill, needing EMERGENCY COMMITMENT because of harm to self or others and they are under the care of a private psychiatrist, contact the psychiatrist. If he or she wants to evaluate this person, they will complete the necessary document and send you to the Probate Court. The person will be taken to the private psychiatrist for their examination. In an **after-hours** situation, private psychiatrist should call **CRISISLINE** for assistance.