

**Commission on Mental Health Law Reform
Report to Joint Commission on Health Care
August 12, 2008**

Commission Activities: Phase I (9/06-4/08)

1. *Commission's Preliminary Report*

Preliminary Report and Recommendations of the Commonwealth of Virginia Commission on Mental Health Law Reform (December, 2007). The report is available on-line at

http://www.courts.state.va.us/cmh/2007_0221_preliminary_report.pdf.

2. *Task Force Reports*

- Task Force on Civil Commitment: Report completed
- Task Force on Empowerment and Self Determination: Report completed
- Task Force on Children and Adolescents: Report in final draft
- Task Force on Access to Services: Deliberations continue in Phase II
- Task Force on Criminal Justice: Report under preparation
- Working Group on Health Privacy and the Commitment Process: Interim report released; final report in preparation

3. *Research Reports*

Civil Commitment Practices in Virginia: Perceptions, Attitudes and Recommendations (April 2007). The study is available at

http://www.courts.state.va.us/cmh/civil_commitment_practices_focus_groups.pdf

A Study of Commitment Hearings Held in the Commonwealth of Virginia During May, 2007. The study is available at

http://www.courts.state.va.us/cmh/2007_05_civil_commitment_hearings.pdf.

A Study of Face-to-Face Crisis Contact Evaluations Conducted by CSBs During June, 2007: Report in final preparation

Commission Activities: Phase II (4/08- 6/10)

1. Task Forces

- Task Force on Implementation of 2008 Reforms (Greg Lucyk, Chair)
- Task Force on Future Commitment Reforms (Jane D. Hickey, Chair)
 - Working Group on Transportation
- Task Force on Advance Directives (Steve Rosenthal, Chair)
- Task Force on Access to Services (Chuck Hall, Chair)
 - Working Group on Child and Adolescent Services
 - Working Group on Criminal Justice Interface
 - Working Group on Medicaid
 - Working Group on Parity
 - Working Group on Role of State Government in System Improvement
 - Working Group on Workforce Development
 - Working Group on Barriers to Access for Aging Persons and Returning Servicemen, Veterans and their Families
- Task Force on Commitment Proceedings and Related Issues Involving College and University Students (under consideration for 2009 in collaboration with SCHEV)

2. Data, Research and Evaluation

- Review of data on commitment process in FY 09-10 and design of improved data system
- Study of commitment proceedings during sample period(s) in 2009
- Evaluation of mandatory outpatient treatment

3. Planned Reports

- Progress Report on Mental Health Law Reform (12/08)
- Reports of various task forces
- Research reports
- Progress Report on Mental Health Law Reform (12/09)
- Final Report (6/10)