

NORTH CAROLINA

Civil Commitment Manual

Second Edition
2011

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North Carolina Indigent Defense Manual Series
John Rubin, Editor



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Table of Contents*

Preface	xi
Chapter 1	
Overview of Manual	1-1
1.1 Purpose of Manual	1-1
1.2 Terminology Used in this Chapter	1-2
1.3 Involuntary Commitment	1-3
1.4 Voluntary Admission	1-5
1.5 Commitments and Admissions through the Criminal Justice System	1-6
1.6 Collateral Consequences	1-6
1.7 Admissions Not Requiring Judicial Review	1-6
1.8 Administrative Office of the Courts Forms	1-7
1.9 Division of Mental Health Forms	1-7
Appendix 1-1 Commitments and Admissions: Quick Summary	11-8
Chapter 2	
Involuntary Commitment of Adults and Minors for Mental Health Treatment	2-1
2.1 Overview of Involuntary Commitment Process	2-3
2.2 Terminology Used in this Chapter	2-6
2.3 Involuntary Commitment: Prehearing Procedures	2-8
2.4 Outpatient Commitment Recommended by Physician or Eligible Psychologist Affiant	2-9
2.5 Attorney Representation	2-20
2.6 Initial Hearing	2-23
2.7 Disposition	2-40

* Each chapter contains a detailed listing of contents.

2.8	Outpatient Commitment Supplemental Hearings	2-44
2.9	Rehearings for Inpatient Commitment	2-46
2.10	Rehearings for Outpatient Commitment	2-48
2.11	Special Emergency Procedure	2-49
2.12	Appeal	2-50
	Appendix 2-1	2-57
	Involuntary Commitment for Mental Health Treatment: Checklist for Respondents' Attorneys	
	Appendix 2-2	2-58
	Memorandum to Magistrates	

Chapter 3

Involuntary Commitment of Adults and Minors for Substance Abuse Treatment **3-1**

3.1	Substance Abuse Commitment	3-2
3.2	Terminology Used in this Chapter	3-3
3.3	Involuntary Substance Abuse Commitment	3-4
3.4	Attorney Representation	3-8
3.5	Hearings	3-9
3.6	Disposition	3-13
3.7	Supplemental Hearings	3-16
3.8	Rehearings	3-18
3.9	Discharge by Area Authority or Physician	3-19
3.10	Emergency Procedure for Violent Individuals	3-19
3.11	Appeal	3-20
3.12	Public Intoxication	3-21
	Appendix 3-1	3-23
	Involuntary Commitment for Substance Abuse Treatment: Checklist for Respondents' Attorneys	

Chapter 4

Voluntary Admission of Adults for Substance Abuse Treatment **4-1**

4.1	Voluntary Admission for Substance Abuse Treatment	4-1
4.2	Terminology Used in this Chapter	4-1

4.3	Admission and Treatment of Family Unit	4-2
4.4	Voluntary Admission of Incompetent Adult	4-2
4.5	No Admission by Advance Instruction	4-2
4.6	No Admission by Health Care Power of Attorney	4-3
4.7	Negotiating a Voluntary Admission When Substance Abuse Commitment Recommended	4-3
Chapter 5		
Voluntary Admission of Incompetent Adults		5-1
5.1	Overview	5-1
5.2	Terminology Used in this Chapter	5-2
5.3	Admission by Consent of Guardian	5-3
5.4	Evaluation for Admission	5-4
5.5	Attorney Representation	5-4
5.6	Hearings	5-5
5.7	Appeal	5-7
Chapter 6		
Voluntary Admission of Minors		6-1
6.1	Overview	6-2
6.2	Terminology Used in this Chapter	6-2
6.3	Procedures for Admission and Discharge	6-3
6.4	Duties of Clerk of Superior Court	6-4
6.5	Duties of Attorney for Minor	6-5
6.6	Hearings	6-7
6.7	Treatment	6-11
6.8	Rehearings	6-11
6.9	Discharge and Conditional Release	6-12
6.10	Emergency Admission	6-13
Chapter 7		
Automatic Commitment—Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity		7-1
7.1	Overview	7-2

7.2	Terminology Used in this Chapter	7-3
7.3	Characterization of Offense	7-3
7.4	Temporary Restraint Pending 15A-1321 Proceedings	7-4
7.5	Commitment Hearing Under Chapter 122C	7-4
7.6	Disposition	7-9
7.7	Rehearings	7-9
7.8	Discharge or Conditional Release	7-10
Chapter 8		
Commitment of Defendants Found Incapable of Proceeding		8-1
8.1	Overview	8-2
8.2	North Carolina Defender Manual: Capacity to Proceed	8-2
8.3	Terminology Used in this Chapter	8-3
8.4	Applicability to Adults and Juveniles Alleged to Be Delinquent	8-4
8.5	Determination of Incapacity to Proceed	8-4
8.6	Referral of Defendant for Civil Commitment Proceedings	8-8
8.7	Attorney Representation	8-10
8.8	Preparation for Hearing	8-10
8.9	Hearings	8-11
8.10	Dispositional Alternatives	8-13
8.11	Rehearings	8-14
8.12	Termination of Commitment	8-14
8.13	Supplemental Hearings in Criminal Court	8-15
8.14	Defendant's Return to Stand Trial Upon Regaining Capacity	8-15
	Appendix 8-1	8-16
	Capacity and Commitment Flowchart	
Chapter 9		
Involuntary Commitment and Voluntary Admission of Inmates		9-1
9.1	Overview	9-1
9.2	Terminology Used in this Chapter	9-1
9.3	Involuntary Commitment of Inmates	9-2

9.4	Attorney Meeting with Inmate-Respondent	9-3
9.5	Termination of Commitment	9-4
9.6	Voluntary Admission and Discharge of Inmates	9-4
Chapter 10		
Voluntary Admission of Competent Adults for Treatment of Mental Illness		10-1
10.1	Overview	10-1
10.2	Procedures for Admission and Discharge	10-1
10.3	Collateral Proceedings	10-3
Chapter 11		
Admission for Mental Health Treatment Pursuant to Advance Instruction or Health Care Power of Attorney		11-1
11.1	Overview	11-1
11.2	Terminology Used in this Chapter	11-2
11.3	Admission Pursuant to Advance Instruction	11-3
11.4	Admission Pursuant to Health Care Power of Attorney	11-4
Chapter 12		
Advising Clients on Collateral Matters and Consequences of Commitment		12-1
12.1	Overview	12-1
12.2	Terminology Used in this Chapter	12-1
12.3	Firearm Ownership and Possession	12-2
12.4	Driving Privileges	12-5
12.5	Restrictions on Patient Rights	12-6
12.6	Expunction of Minors' Records of Admission and Commitment	12-8
12.7	Civil Rights and Remedies	12-8
Appendix 12-1		12-10
Involuntary Commitments and Federal Firearms Disabilities		

Appendix A

Forms

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Forms

Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health,
Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (DMH) Forms

Appendix B

Motions

Sample Motions

Appendix C

Working with Clients

Judith L. Kornegay, "Working with Clients," *from* Training in Civil Commitment
Law: Representing People Facing Commitment (Feb. 21–22, 2003)

Appendix D

Involuntary Commitment and the Federal Gun Control Act

Robert Stranahan, "Involuntary Commitment and the Federal Gun Control Act,"
from Second Annual Civil Commitment Conference (Jan. 23, 2004)

Appendix E

Common Abbreviations

Common Abbreviations (source unknown)

Preface to the Second Edition

We are proud to release this second edition of the North Carolina Civil Commitment Manual. Our aim has been to create a clear, usable resource for attorneys appointed to represent respondents in civil commitment cases. We hope this edition of the manual continues to meet that goal. We also hope the manual will be a useful source of information for others who work in this challenging area.

We have the honor of writing this preface, but much of the credit for the manual belongs to others. First, the manual reflects the extraordinary work of the first edition's lead author, Lou Newman, who practiced law for many years in Wake County. She had just the right combination of qualities to get the project off the ground: experience as a respondent's attorney, expertise in the law, and a talent for synthesizing the valuable input we received from the editorial board on the first edition.

Second, thanks go to Rob Stranahan, Special Counsel, Central Regional Hospital, who read drafts of this edition, and to the members of the first edition's editorial board—Mark F. Botts, Associate Professor of Public Law and Government, UNC School of Government; Becky C. Zogry, Esq., Kernersville, NC; Judith L. Kornegay, Esq., Rocky Mount, NC; Willia G. Mills, Special Counsel, John Umstead Hospital; Rob Stranahan; and Eric J. Zogry, Juvenile Defender, Office of Indigent Defense Services. They volunteered their time to review each chapter, offer their insights into the civil commitment process, and endure long meetings to see the manual to its conclusion.

Third, we gratefully acknowledge the talents and contributions of Kathryn Burke, legal editor, who read, scrutinized, tightened, and improved every aspect of our work.

Last, this manual would not have been possible without the support of the Office of Indigent Defense Services and the UNC School of Government. Their collaboration on this and other educational projects has enhanced the resources available to indigent defense attorneys and has improved the service that indigent defenders are able to provide their clients. We also want to thank Owen Dubose, Katrina Hunt, Kevin Justice, and Angela Williams with the publications division of the School of Government for their assistance in designing, producing, and distributing the manual.

Comments and suggestions are welcome. They may be sent to John Rubin at the School of Government, CB #3330, Knapp Building, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27599-3330. He also can be reached by telephone at (919) 962-2498 or by e-mail at rubin@sog.unc.edu.

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