

PETITIONS FOR EMERGENCY EVALUATION: THE CURRENT PROCESS IN MARYLAND (1/19/2022)

*“My relative/friend/neighbor is in a psychiatric crisis, **their health care provider recommends hospitalization, but they do not want to go voluntarily.** What should I do?”*



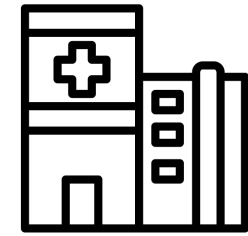
WITNESS



HEALTHCARE
PROVIDER



LAW
ENFORCEMENT



HOSPITAL

The following people may file a petition **without a judge's approval**, given they have personally evaluated the individual in crisis:

- Physician
- Psychologist
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor
- County health official/designee
- Law enforcement officer


Healthcare provider files the petition

Petition received OR picked up by law enforcement

Petition is received by hospital

Transports/arranges transport to hospital for emergency evaluation

Patient must be evaluated by two physicians, or a physician and psychologist **within 6 hours**

 Dashed lines indicate the path by which petitions are being **physically delivered**

A petition for emergency evaluation can be made only if the petitioner has reason to believe that the individual:

- Has a mental disorder, AND
- The individual presents a danger to the life or safety of the individual or others

PETITIONS FOR EMERGENCY EVALUATION: THE CURRENT PROCESS IN MARYLAND (1/19/2022)

*"My relative/friend/neighbor is in a psychiatric crisis, and cannot or will not help themselves, **and has no health care provider.** How can I get the person medical attention?"*

