

Following is an invitation shared on behalf of Dr. James Clark, Chair of the Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) of the State of Arizona. There is an upcoming opening on PSRB; the information below summarizes the PSRB's responsibilities, and the Chair, Jim Clark MD, is soliciting interest from local psychiatrists in filling the upcoming vacancy for a psychiatrist on the Board. If you are able to contribute this service to the PSRB, please contact Dr. James Clark, the Chair of the PSRB, directly, by telephone call to 602-301-8806. If you know of a psychiatric peer in the community who might be interested and a good fit for this position, please feel free to share this information.

The PSRB is a 5-member board consisting of 5 positions: a psychiatrist; a psychologist; one member who may be either a psychiatrist or a psychologist; a person with a background in probation or community monitoring; and a community member. Members are nominated by the Governor and confirmed in the AZ Senate.

The Board is charged with overseeing approximately 100 individuals who have been found Guilty Except insane (Arizona's version of "Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity") of a violent crime. They are sentenced to an amount of time under the Board's jurisdiction which is equivalent to the sentence they would have received if found guilty. They are initially placed at ASH; they come for a hearing before the Board every 2 years, and ASH will make a recommendation for various privilege levels, up to and including conditional release to the community. The Board then votes to decide whether to follow the recommendation of ASH.

The Board meets the last Friday of each month in the afternoon. Board members are sent information regarding each case to be heard, about 10 days before the hearing. They review this information ahead of time. The hearings take 3-4 hours, once per month; occasionally, due to a deadline, there is a hearing conducted by telephone, but those typically last only 10 minutes or so and occur only once every few months. Board members are paid \$30/day for days spent reviewing records and for the day of the actual Board meeting.

Obviously, those serving on the Board are not doing it for the money, but because they wish to be of service to their fellow Arizona citizens by lending their expertise for oversight of this population of patients. AZ state law indemnifies them from liability for decisions made as a Board member. Aside from altruistic motivations, the cases are extremely interesting.