

Oakland County Pre-Booking Jail Diversion Program

Pre-booking Jail Diversion is the process by which persons, who have committed a non-violent misdemeanor offense **and** are believed to have a mental illness or a developmental disability, are referred for a mental health evaluation by Law Enforcement Personnel.

This diversion from the criminal justice system occurs when the person suspected of having a mental illness or developmental disability has contact with law enforcement. When a police officer encounters someone he/she believes may have a mental illness or developmental disability **and** this person has committed a non-violent misdemeanor, the officer **may** choose to divert the individual from the criminal justice system and into treatment. The diversion is a voluntary process and if the individual agrees to be diverted he/she will sign a Jail Diversion Notice form. This form serves as an agreement between the officer and individual that charges will be dropped if he/she is compliant with the treatment plan established by the health provider. The form also serves as a release of information so the health provider can communicate compliance or non-compliance to the arresting officer. If the individual is non-compliant with the treatment plan that is set up with their service provider, the officer will be notified within 30 days by jail diversion staff and **may** file charges.

Jail diversion cases **shall** be given priority status by the health provider agency. This will allow the officer to return to patrol following a brief "hand-off" to the intake staff. A copy of the jail diversion notice form must be faxed to the Jail Diversion Coordinator by the health provider agency.