

Navigating Your Way

THROUGH A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOLD IN NEVADA

You or a loved one may be held in a hospital, crisis center, or psychiatric hospital without your consent if you are believed to be a danger to yourself or others. Learn what this means for you and your loved one.

WHAT IS A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOLD?

A mental health crisis hold, also known as a “legal hold” is a brief period of time in which a person who appears to be at risk of harming themselves or others due to mental illness, can be held involuntarily for up to 72 hours.

WHEN IS A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOLD USED?

This detainment, called an “emergency admission” in Nevada Law, is placed when on a person who appears to be a risk of harming themselves or others due to mental illness.

WHO CAN PLACE A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOLD?

The following individuals can put someone on a mental health crisis hold:

- Authorized Law Enforcement
- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Psychologist
- Marriage and Family Therapist
- Certified Professional Counselor
- Social Worker
- Registered Nurse
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

WHERE IS ONE TAKEN ON A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOLD?

If you are placed on a hold, you will be taken to a hospital or crisis center for evaluation.. Once evaluated by a healthcare professional, you may be discharged or transferred to an inpatient psychiatric unit.

WHY WAS I OR MY LOVED ONE PLACED ON A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOLD?

A person may be held if there is a *substantial likelihood of serious harm to himself/herself or others due to mental illness*, and if, without care or treatment, is at risk of:

- Attempting suicide
- Homicide
- Causing bodily injury to himself/herself or others
- Incurring a serious injury, illness or death resulting from complete neglect of basic needs for food, clothing, shelter or personal safety

HOW LONG DOES A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOLD LAST?

A mental health crisis hold or “emergency admission” lasts for 72 hours. If, at the end of the 72 hours, the healthcare provider overseeing your care believes you need additional treatment to address your mental health crisis, they may petition the court for a court ordered admission to extend the hold.

For more information, or to download the full mental health crisis brochure, visit:

nvcit.org