



Jon D. Doolittle
President and CEO
P.O. Box 60
Jefferson City, MO 65102

MEMO

October 5, 2022

TO: MHA Psychiatric Network
Chief Nursing Officers
Emergency Room Directors
Quality Directors
Directors of Regulation and Accreditation
Directors of Social Work

FROM: Sarah Willson
Vice President of Clinical and Regulatory Affairs

SUBJECT: Regulatory Update — Civil Involuntary Commitment Notarization Requirements

In 2022, the Missouri Hospital Association advocated for legislative changes to [Section 632.305, RSMo](#) impacting the 96-hour civil involuntary commitment process. These changes were signed into law and became effective August 28, 2022. Specifically, the changes eliminate the need for a notary on the 96-hour application and affidavits forms. In response to the passage of the language, the Department of Mental Health issued revised forms (below) for petitioning the court for civil involuntary commitment without a notary.

MHA has become aware of some jurisdictions continuing to require the notary for affidavits. MHA has communicated with DMH on the issue. In response, MHA has developed a [memo](#) for hospitals to modify and use within their local jurisdiction to educate on the change. Please reach out to Sarah Willson, swillson@mhanet.com, or Jane Drummond, jdrummond@mhanet.com, if you continue to experience requirements for notarization on the following forms. This only applies to the 96-hour commitment process.

Changes have been made to the following:

- [Affidavit in Support of Application for Detention, Evaluation and Treatment/Rehabilitation – Admission for 96 Hours](#)
- [Application for 96 Hour Imminent Harm Admission to a Mental Health or Alcohol or Drug Abuse Facility](#)
- [Application to Court for 96 Hour Detention, Evaluation and Treatment/Rehabilitation](#)

- [Application for 96 Hour Detention, Evaluation and Treatment/Rehabilitation of a Voluntary Patient Requesting Release](#)
- [Affidavit in Support of Application for Detention, Evaluation and Treatment/Rehabilitation – Admission for 96 Hours](#)
- [Verification](#)

sw/pt