

Civil & Criminal Justice

**Gray Matters Behavioral Health Caucus  
Civil & Criminal Justice Perspective**

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Judge Susan Tate  
Athens-Clarke County probate Courts

January 27, 2010

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Civil & Criminal Justice

**Gray Matters Behavioral Health Caucus  
Council of Probate Court Judges**

- Declaration of Policy: Community Alternatives to Institutional care
- Authorization for involuntary evaluations to be done locally
- Alternative transportation authorized
- Outpatient commitment reporting to GCIC mandated (compliance w/ federal law)

January 27, 2010

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**Gray Matters Behavioral Health Caucus  
Addition of Declaration of Policy Provisions**

- For chapters 3 and 7 of the mental health code (Title 37) similar to those found in chapter 5
- Making it consistent with
  - Title 37, Chapter 5
  - Olmstead decision
  - Chief Justice's Mental Health/Criminal Justice Task Force
- Begin to balance the state's focus between:
  - Institutional Care (the most expensive setting)
  - and
  - Community Care (which is not only less expensive, but also has been shown to have better outcomes)

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**Gray Matters Behavioral Health Caucus**

**Local Involuntary Evaluations & Alternative transports**

- Provisions allowing involuntary evaluations to be done locally through the use of telemedicine
- Authorizing alternative transportation (medical transport) to evaluations in order to ease the burden on sheriff's offices

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**Gray Matters Behavioral Health Caucus**

**Outpatient Commitment Reporting**

- Requiring GCIC to collect...
- Judges and clerks to report ...
- Involuntary outpatient treatment orders in addition to the inpatient treatment orders currently reported.
- Gives specific authority to report identifying information.

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