Virginia Sheriffs' Association Recommendations on Mental Health Crises

Joint Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the 21st Century - Law Enforcement Officer - Temporary Detention Order/Emergency Custody Order Work Group



Virginia Sheriffs' Association Mr. John W. Jones, Executive Director jjones@virginiasheriffs.org

May 4, 2021



The Virginia Sheriffs' Association (VSA) recommends the following immediate actions to address the crises in mental health.



1. Beds are needed to admit patients needing services

- a. Mental health patients should not have to wait **DAYS** for admission and services on TDO'S.
- b. Additional public and private beds should be an immediate option.



2. Immediate Relief – OT funds for deputy sheriffs to accommodate immediate crisis.

\$3,867,972 – Biennium Cost



3. Expand role of alternative transportation providers to relieve Law Enforcement Officers during TDO process.

\$4,359,416 – Biennium Cost

