

The Alex Bonavitacola Law Library of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania is pleased to present “The Anatomy of a Civil Mental Health Involuntary Commitment Hearing” on Wednesday, December 3, 2003.

The Court of Common Pleas Mental Health Review Officers will be on hand to provide a Mental Health Court overview, discuss the Mental Health Procedures Act of 1976 as amended, the issues leading up to involuntary commitment, the petitions and processes which are part and parcel of the Commitment hearing, the hearing itself, and the decision-making process.

Along with the Mental Health Review Officers, a number of mental health professionals will also be available to address issues and topics such as “302” criteria, the role of the Mental Health Delegate, crisis response, the psychiatric perspective, family advocacy, and consumer information.

The program begins at 12:00 Noon and concludes at 2:00 PM in the Bonavitacola Law Library, Room 600, City Hall. The program is open to lawyers and non-lawyers alike and is designed for members of the public who are directly impacted by mental health issues. Participants are encouraged to bring along a “box lunch” or “brown bag lunch”.

RSVP to James Clark at 215-686-3749 or feel free to contact Mr. Clark for further information.

## ANATOMY OF A CIVIL COMMITMENT HEARING

- |               |    |   |
|---------------|----|---|
| 12:00 – 12:05 | 1) | Introduction: ( Monica Widelitz, M.H.R.O.)  |
| 12:05 – 12:20 | 2) | What is a 302? ( Caroline Ulmer, Chief M.H. Delegate )<br>a) 302 Criteria<br>b) The role of the delegate<br>c) Crisis Response Center ( information/location )<br>d) Crisis Mobile Team                                       |
| 12:20 – 12:35 | 3) | The Psychiatric Perspective: ( Dr. Miles Ladenheim, M.D.)<br>a) Initial Mental Status Exam<br>b) Determination of need for continued in-patient treatment   |
| 12:35 – 12:50 | 4) | Office of The City Solicitor: ( Representative )<br>a) The role of the City Solicitor in Mental Health Court<br>b) Mental Health Court Overview<br>c) Distinguishing sections of the M.H.P.A.                                 |
| 12:50 – 1:05  | 5) | Defender Association of Philadelphia: ( Representative )<br>a) Role of Defender as Advocate<br>b) Case preparation  |
| 1:05 – 1:20   | 6) | Mental Health Review Officer: ( Monica Widelitz )<br>a) Overview of M.H.R.O.<br>b) Qualifications/Training<br>c) Standard of Proof necessary for commitment<br>d) Conflict between providing treatment and following the law. |
| 1:20 – 1:30   | 7) | Family Advocate: (Kathleen Cantwell, P.M.H.C.C.)  |
| 1:30 – 1:40   | 8) | Consumer Perspective: (Alex Morisey, M.H.Association)   |
| 1:45 – 2:00   | 9) | Questions / Discussion  |

### Handouts / Printed Materials

- 1) Introduction to Mental Health Law
- 2) Synopsis of relevant M.H.P.A. sections
- 3) C.R.C. Information
- 4) Family Advocacy Information
- 5) Consumer Information
- 6) Mental Health Court Schedules & Locations