

**Psychiatric Security Review Board and
Oregon Health Authority - Addictions and Mental Health Division**

Report on Implementation of SB 420 (2011)

October 31, 2013

The Oregon Health Authority, Addictions and Mental Health (AMH) Division and the Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) respectfully submit the following SB 420 (2011) report. AMH and PSRB are required to report on implementation to the Legislative Assembly on October 31, 2013.

Background

Senate Bill 420 was passed in the 2011 regular session and took effect on January 1, 2012. This legislation changed the dispositional phase of the legal process for those who successfully assert the insanity defense. It created a two tier system based on the nature of the offense for which an individual is found “guilty except for insanity” of a crime. In addition, the individual must continue to be affected by a mental disease or defect which, when active, causes him/her to pose a substantial danger to others. Those who commit Tier 1 offenses (*i.e.*, aggravated murder or Ballot Measure 11 crimes) continue to be placed under the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB). Jurisdiction of Tier 2 offenders (*i.e.*, non-Ballot Measure 11 crimes) who are committed to OSH are placed under the jurisdiction of the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). OHA is responsible for conducting the statutorily required hearings and making decisions regarding placement of the Tier 2 individuals with input from PSRB regarding advisable conditions of release. As is the case with the PSRB, OHA must consider public safety as its primary concern when making these determinations. When conditionally released to the community, jurisdiction of Tier 2 offenders transfers to the PSRB for monitoring and supervision responsibility.

Progress to date

Since the report submitted on March 1, 2013, OHA has successfully implemented the following:

- Reappointed panelists and drafted and implemented contracts for the Oregon Health Authority’s State Hospital Review Panel (SHRP). Members of this panel conduct hearings and make decisions related to placement of Tier 2 individuals. Members include:
 - Attorney Raymond W. Myers
 - Psychiatrist Alex Burt, MD
 - Psychologist Gregory Czar, PhD, PC
 - Probation Officer Diana Karpinski
 - Public Member Melanie Zermer
- Along with the PSRB, provided over 30 trainings for community partners (including judges, district attorneys, defense attorneys, county mental health offices, and consumers) across the state regarding SB 420 (2011).

On January 1, 2012, the PSRB transferred 118 Tier 2 clients who were residents of OSH to the jurisdiction of the SHRP. SHRP has held 232 hearings since January 1, 2012, 54 of which were at the request of tier two patients. In order to ensure that all patients receive their statutorily required hearings in a timely manner, SHRP has scheduled 236 hearings. Under SB 420, when a patient is conditionally released by SHRP, the patient is released into the community and transferred to the jurisdiction of the PSRB. PSRB may revoke the release if the patient does not comply with the conditions of release. If a Tier 2 client's conditional release is revoked, jurisdiction is transferred back to SHRP.

Since January 1, 2012 (when SB 420 took effect):

- 30 new individuals have been found guilty except for insanity of tier two crimes and placed under the jurisdiction of SHRP;
- 47 patients have been conditionally released by the SHRP;
- 9 patients have been approved for conditional release when a bed becomes available in the community.
- 100 patients have been approved for community evaluations by the SHRP. Before a patient may be conditionally released, a community evaluation must be conducted.
- 20 patients have been discharged from the state hospital by the SHRP because the term of their commitment ended. When the patient's term of commitment ends he or she is no longer committed to the hospital, to SHRP, or to the PSRB. These discharges would have happened regardless of SB 420 being implemented.
- 17 additional patients have been discharged because they no longer meet the statutory criteria for jurisdiction.
- 27 Tier 2 patients have had their conditional release revoked by the PSRB.

Next Steps

The PSRB and the OSH Legal Affairs Department will continue to provide presentations and training on the implementation of SB 420 and the PSRB and SHRP process to judges, district attorneys, defense attorneys, and community partners throughout the state.