

NOTICE OF HEARING RIGHTS

Respondent's Name: _____ Case No. _____

The court has scheduled a hearing to decide whether you have to remain involuntarily at the crisis residential center, evaluation facility, or treatment facility for a longer period of time. The facility may decide to release you, or you may voluntarily choose to remain at the facility, before the court hearing. If either of those things happens, the hearing will be cancelled.

If neither of those things happens, the facility must file with the court a petition to involuntarily hold you. The scheduled hearing will help the court decide whether to grant or deny that petition. You have the following rights before and during the hearing:

1. To be represented by a lawyer.
2. To communicate immediately with your guardian (if you have one), your parents (if you are a minor), another adult of your choice, and your lawyer.
3. To have an interpreter if you do not understand or speak English.
4. To see and get a copy of all petitions and reports in the court file on your case.
5. To attend the hearing.
6. To be free of the effects of medications and other treatment to the maximum extent possible—both before and while you attend the hearing—unless the facility can show specific exceptions under the law.
7. To choose whether your hearing is open to the public or not.
8. To have the rules of evidence and civil procedure applied informally and efficiently.
9. To present your own evidence.
10. To remain silent.
11. To ask questions of witnesses.
12. To have your own experts and witnesses attend the hearing and testify for you.
13. To appeal to a higher court if you are committed or detained by the trial court.

If the petition is for a period longer than 30 days, you also have these additional rights:

1. To choose to have a jury of six people (instead of a judge) decide whether or not you will be involuntarily committed.
2. To have an independent doctor or other mental health professional evaluate you and testify for you. If you can't afford to hire your own doctor or other professional, you may ask the court to appoint one for you at public expense.
3. To have a decision on the petition no more than 20 days after it is filed.

Before you can be involuntarily committed for 30 days or more, the court (or jury) must find by clear and convincing evidence that you are mentally ill, and because of that illness, you are gravely disabled or you are likely to cause harm to yourself or others. For a 7-Day detention at a crisis residential center, the court needs to find probable cause that these things are true.

Notice to Parents or Guardians of Minor Respondents

You have the right to proceed as a party in this case. You have the right to your own attorney to represent you. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may request that the court appoint you one at public expense by filing *Request for Appointed Attorney* (form P-910). This form is available from the court clerk, or online at ak-courts.info/p910.

<input type="checkbox"/> I, _____, notified Respondent orally of these rights and gave a copy of this notice to Respondent on _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I, _____, gave Respondent's parent/guardian a copy of this notice on _____