

Certification Review Hearing

14-Day Certification for Intensive Treatment (5250)

You have been placed on a 14-day involuntary hold in an acute psychiatric facility. There will be a hearing scheduled called a Certification Review Hearing. The hearing is to determine if the hospital meets the burden of proof to keep you in the hospital against your will. If you have any questions on how to prepare for the hearing, contact:

Patient Advocacy Program at 619-282-1134

Notice of Certification:

- You will be given a Notice of Certification from the hospital when you are placed on the 14-day hold.
- The notice provides:
 - The specific criteria
 - Danger to Others
 - Danger to Himself or Herself
 - Gravely Disabled (Defined as: due to a mental disorder a person is unable to utilize food, clothing and/or shelter)
- The notice will also contain:
 - The specific facts to support the criteria.
 - The date of when the 14-day hold begins.
 - The signature of the doctor initiating the hold, followed by a second evaluator, and the signature of the person who provided the notice to you.

The Hearing:

- The hearing will be held at the hospital within four days of the day the Notice of Certification is provided to you.
- A Patient Advocate will be provided to assist you with presenting information at the hearing on your behalf. (You may utilize your own counsel if you wish.)
 - The advocate will meet with you prior to the hearing to help you prepare.
 - You can also request to have family members or someone of your choice at the hearing to help you explain your circumstances.
- A Superior Court Hearing Officer will listen to the information provided by the hospital, then by you and your advocate. The Hearing Officer will decide whether or not there is enough information to keep you in the hospital for continued treatment up to the remaining number of days of the 14-day hold.
(You must be released as soon as your treatment team determines that you are no longer meeting criteria to be held)

Questions?

Call the *Jewish Family Service Patient Advocacy Program*
(619)282-1134 / (800) 479-2233

<http://www.jfssd.org/patientadvocacy>

A Program of Jewish Family Service
funded by County of San Diego,
Health and Human Service Agency



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