

UNDERSTANDING THE USE OF “PINK SLIPS” FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PATIENTS

Presented by
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DEFINITION OF “PINK SLIP”

- What is a “pink slip”?
- Euphemism used to identify document referenced in Revised Code Section 5122.10
- Document utilized to obtain emergency hospitalization for an individual who is 1) mentally ill subject to hospitalization by court order, and 2) represents a substantial risk of physical harm to him/herself or others if allowed to remain at liberty pending examination

“Pink slip” is the common term for the paperwork used to detain an individual for the purpose of emergency hospitalization. Technically, the correct term is “Application for Emergency Admission.”

TO: The Chief Clinical Officer of _____
(Regional Psychiatric Hospital - RPH/Facility Name) (Date/Time)

The undersigned has reason to believe that: _____
(Name of Person to be Admitted)

1. Is a mentally ill person subject to hospitalization by court order under division B Section 5122.01 of the Revised Code, i.e., this person

- (1) Represents a substantial risk of physical harm to self as manifested by evidence of threats of, or attempts at, suicide or serious self-inflicted bodily harm;
- (2) Represents a substantial risk of physical harm to others as manifested by evidence of recent homicidal or other violent behavior, evidence of recent threats that place another in reasonable fear of violent behavior and serious physical harm, or other evidence of present dangerousness;
- (3) Represents a substantial and immediate risk of serious physical impairment or injury to self as manifested by evidence that the person is unable to provide for and is not providing for the person's basic physical needs because of the person's mental illness and that appropriate provision for those needs cannot be made immediately available in the community; or
- (4) Would benefit from treatment in a hospital for his mental illness and is in need of such treatment as manifested by evidence of behavior that creates a grave and imminent risk to substantial rights of others or himself.

2. Represents a substantial risk of physical harm to self or others if allowed to remain at liberty pending examination.

Therefore, it is requested that said person be admitted to the above named facility.

STATEMENT OF BELIEF

Must be filled out by one of the following: a psychiatrist, licensed clinical psychologist, licensed physician, health or police officer, sheriff or deputy sheriff.

(Statement shall include the circumstances under which the individual was taken into custody and the reason for the person's belief that hospitalization is necessary. The statement shall also include a reference to efforts made to secure the individual's property at his residence if he was taken into custody there. Every reasonable and appropriate effort should be made to take this person into custody in the least conspicuous manner possible.)

APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY ADMISSION
In Accordance with Section 5122.10 ORC

Name of Person to be Admitted

STATEMENT OF BELIEF (continued)

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Signature	
Title/Position/Badge or License No.	Place of Employment

**STATEMENT OF OBSERVATION BY PSYCHIATRIST, LICENSED PHYSICIAN,
OR LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, IF APPLICABLE**

Place of Observation (e.g., community mental health center, general hospital, office, emergency facility)
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Signature	Title
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Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Signature of Chief Clinical Officer	Date/Time
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■ 5122.10 Emergency hospitalization

- Any psychiatrist, licensed clinical psychologist, licensed physician, health officer, parole officer, police officer, or sheriff may take a person into custody, or the chief of the adult parole authority or a parole or probation officer with the approval of the chief of the authority may take a parolee, an offender under a community control sanction or a post-release control sanction, or an offender under transitional control into custody and may immediately transport the parolee, offender on community control or post-release control, or offender under transitional control to a hospital or, notwithstanding section [5119.20](#) of the Revised Code, to a general hospital not licensed by the department of mental health where the parolee, offender on community control or post-release control, or offender under transitional control may be held for the period prescribed in this section, if the psychiatrist, licensed clinical psychologist, licensed physician, health officer, parole officer, police officer, or sheriff has reason to believe that the person is a mentally ill person subject to hospitalization by court order under division (B) of section [5122.01](#) of the Revised Code, and represents a substantial risk of physical harm to self or others if allowed to remain at liberty pending examination.
- A written statement shall be given to such hospital by the transporting psychiatrist, licensed clinical psychologist, licensed physician, health officer, parole officer, police officer, chief of the adult parole authority, parole or probation officer, or sheriff stating the circumstances under which such person was taken into custody and the reasons for the psychiatrist's, licensed clinical psychologist's, licensed physician's, health officer's, parole officer's, police officer's, chief of the adult parole authority's, parole or probation officer's, or sheriff's belief. This statement shall be made available to the respondent or the respondent's attorney upon request of either.
- Every reasonable and appropriate effort shall be made to take persons into custody in the least conspicuous manner possible. A person taking the respondent into custody pursuant to this section shall explain to the respondent: the name, professional designation, and agency affiliation of the person taking the respondent into custody; that the custody-taking is not a criminal arrest; and that the person is being taken for examination by mental health professionals at a specified mental health facility identified by name.

OHIO REVISED CODE RELATED TO PINK SLIP

- First paragraph defines who can pink slip and requirements
- Second paragraph identifies “statement of belief” listed on pink slip
- Third paragraph identifies important patient rights issues when taking patient into custody

■ Ohio Revised Code 5122.10 (Continued)

- If a person taken into custody under this section is transported to a general hospital, the general hospital may admit the person, or provide care and treatment for the person, or both, notwithstanding section [5119.20](#) of the Revised Code, but by the end of twenty-four hours after arrival at the general hospital, the person shall be transferred to a hospital as defined in section [5122.01](#) of the Revised Code.
- A person transported or transferred to a hospital or community mental health agency under this section shall be examined by the staff of the hospital or agency within twenty-four hours after arrival at the hospital or agency. If to conduct the examination requires that the person remain overnight, the hospital or agency shall admit the person in an unclassified status until making a disposition under this section. After the examination, if the chief clinical officer of the hospital or agency believes that the person is not a mentally ill person subject to hospitalization by court order, the chief clinical officer shall release or discharge the person immediately unless a court has issued a temporary order of detention applicable to the person under section [5122.11](#) of the Revised Code. After the examination, if the chief clinical officer believes that the person is a mentally ill person subject to hospitalization by court order, the chief clinical officer may detain the person for not more than three court days following the day of the examination and during such period admit the person as a voluntary patient under section [5122.02](#) of the Revised Code or file an affidavit under section [5122.11](#) of the Revised Code. If neither action is taken and a court has not otherwise issued a temporary order of detention applicable to the person under section [5122.11](#) of the Revised Code, the chief clinical officer shall discharge the person at the end of the three-day period unless the person has been sentenced to the department of rehabilitation and correction and has not been released from the person's sentence, in which case the person shall be returned to that department.
- Effective Date: 01-01-2004

OHIO REVISED CODE RELATED TO PINK SLIP

- First paragraph identifies requirement to transfer to hospital/unit licensed or operated by ODMH (within 24 hours)
- Second paragraph says that CCO has 24 hours to examine patient & has 3 subsequent court days to admit voluntarily or to file affidavit for court ordered hospitalization

PURPOSE OF PINK SLIP

- To get individuals to safe environment where they can get treatment and recover
- The “one use” paradigm
- Common Sense Approach- If someone presents at hospital ED with licensed psychiatric unit, why send individual across town?

PINK SLIP TIPS

- **1) Have good policies and procedures**
- **2) Follow those policies and procedures**
- **3) Go to 1)**

Statute

**Legal
Advice**

**Common
Sense**

**Court
Order?**

Reality

QUESTIONS FROM YOU

Related
to Pink
Slips

PINK SLIP ON MEDICAL UNIT

- Is a pink slip valid on a medical unit in a hospital with or without psych services present?
- Since ORC 5122. addresses hospitalization of the mentally ill, a pink slip is appropriate if principal focus of treatment is mental illness, but not appropriate if principal focus of treatment is medical issue

FACILITY NAME CHANGE ON PINK SLIP

- Can facility name on original pink slip be altered to another facility and who can/should do this?
- Pink slip is “one use” paradigm so cannot be used for a second facility
- If a mistake has occurred, originator of pink slip may amend document according to medical record standards

PINK SLIP EXPIRATION

- If original pink slip has expired, can new one be issued in order to move patient to psychiatric services?
- Does pink slip expire after 72 hours?
- After pink slip expires, patient must be discharged, sign in voluntarily, or have court ordered hospitalization
- Pink slip expires after 72 hours (3 court days)

PATIENT HOLDS

- How are hospitals dealing with issue of holding patient requiring admission who cannot be pink-slipped and not having physician available to do it?
- Cannot hold a patient against his/her will unless patient meets criteria for emergency hospitalization according to ORC 5122.10

TIME FRAMES

- Clarification of 24 hour initial time frame and subsequent 72 hours once patient is seen by psychiatrist and psychiatrist signs pink slip
- CCO has 24 hours to examine patient & has 3 court days to admit voluntarily or to file affidavit for court ordered hospitalization

TIME FRAMES

- If patient placed on pink slip at 6 pm, for purposes of 3 court-day time frame, when does pink slip start?
- If CCO determines individual is mentally ill and subject to hospitalization by court order, CCO has 72 hours to either admit person voluntarily or file affidavit for court ordered hospitalization
- Example: If pink-slipped on Friday night, would ignore Saturday & Sunday (not court days) and 72 hours would end 6 pm following Wednesday

TIME FRAMES

- Does pink slip expire when probate court closes or next AM when court opens?
- Expiration of pink slip occurs according to time frame listed on pink slip, i.e. 72 hours from time that pink slip was initiated and “may detain the person for not more than three court days following the day of examination”

PINK SLIP TO TRANSPORT

- Is it appropriate for receiving psychiatric facility to require voluntary patient to be pink slipped for transportation to their facility?
- Patient cannot be pink-slipped unless patient meets criteria for emergency hospitalization according to ORC 5122.10

FACILITY NAME NECESSARY

- Does pink slip need facility name listed to be valid? If so, is it legal to pink slip again to another facility?
- Pink slip is legal document that must be fully completed
- Pink slip is “one use” paradigm

TRANSFER OF PROBATE PATIENT

- If patient is probated to facility and needs transferred to another facility for ECT, does probate order need altered by court?
- Hospital providing treatment for patient would need to be consistent with that of probate court order, so would need to amend with court

NURSE PRACTITIONER FUNCTION

- Can psychiatric nurse practitioner sign pink slip?
- Not defined in law
- Check with Risk/Legal Department
- Comply with Ohio Board of Nursing standards and hospital policies and procedures

MINORS AND PINK SLIPS

- Can one pink slip minors? Is it illegal to transport minor to hospital on pink slip?
- It is not prohibited by statute

MEDICAL HOLD

- Is there such a thing as a medical hold (in-house physician pink-slips patient to medical floor to prevent him/her from leaving)?
- Since ORC 5122. addresses hospitalization of the mentally ill, a pink slip is appropriate if principal focus of treatment is mental illness, but not appropriate if principal focus of treatment is medical issue

PROBATE COURT REQUIREMENTS

- Is the county court probate requirement correct that an individual must be transferred from the general hospital to psychiatry within 24 hours of a pink slip?
- By the end of twenty-four hours after arrival at the general hospital, the person shall be transferred to a hospital as defined in section [5122.01](#) of the Revised Code.

INITIATING PINK SLIP

- Do all local law enforcement agencies (city police, sheriff's dept.) have ability to initiate pink slip?
- In accordance with ORC 5122.10, "A written statement shall be given to such hospital by the transporting psychiatrist, licensed clinical psychologist, licensed physician, health officer, parole officer, police officer, chief of the adult parole authority, parole or probation officer, or sheriff."

HOSPITAL POLICE OFFICERS

- If patient is on medical-surgical unit and is found to be suicidal, can hospital's police officers detain patient until psychiatrist has consulted and placed patient on pink slip?
- Review on case by case basis
- Consult with Risk/Legal Department
- Follow hospital's policies and procedures
- Err on side of patient safety

ANOTHER FACILITY PINK SLIP

- Can another facility's ED place patient on pink slip and send them to another hospital?
- Pink slip is “one use” paradigm
- Idea is to get person to safe location

TRANSPORT TO STATE HOSPITAL

- If person is placed on pink slip and needs transported to state hospital, does ORC specify local law enforcement must transport?
- No, not defined in statute

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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**Additional
Questions?**