

**Deferral Conferences**  
**By**  
**Sojourner Jones, BHU Liaison**  
**Wayne County Probate Court**

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- I. Purpose of Deferral Conferences**
  - a.** To connect respondent with their outpatient provider
  - b.** To advise respondent of the proposed treatment plan (both in the hospital and in the community – assisted outpatient treatment)
  - c.** To advise respondent of respondent’s right to defer
  - d.** To advise of the nature and possible consequences of commitment procedures
  - e.** To advise of the responsibilities under a deferral
- II. Statutory Requirements (MCL 330.1455(3))**
  - a.** Required parties to attend the deferral conference:
    - i.** Respondent
    - ii.** Respondent’s attorney
    - iii.** Member of hospital/facility treatment team
    - iv.** Member of outpatient treatment team
    - v.** Any other person the respondent chooses
  - b.** The Deferral conference shall be scheduled by the hospital and held within 72 hours after the filing of the petition and clinical certificates with the court
- III. Court Expectations**
  - a.** Deferral Responsibilities and Rights must be fully explained
    - i.** Must comply with terms of deferral
    - ii.** Right to demand hearing
    - iii.** Right to discuss medication and treatment with provider
    - iv.** Right to complain about services
  - b.** PCM 235 – Request to Defer Hearing on Commitment
    - i.** Deferral form must be signed by all parties
    - ii.** Must list outpatient provider
    - iii.** Must have AOT services specified
    - iv.** If this form is not properly completed, it will be rejected and matter will be scheduled for hearing
  - c.** SCAO changes to PCM 235 Request to Defer Hearing on Commitment form updated in 2023

- i. Provides a detailed checklist of outpatient treatment services to be selected according to the treatment plan
  - ii. Includes signature sections for all deferral meeting attendees
- d. Send completed deferral form directly to [FGBstaff@wcpc.us](mailto:FGBstaff@wcpc.us) (or staff email for assigned judge)

**IV. Behavioral Health Contacts**

- a. Sojourner Jones – Behavioral Health Unit Liaison Manager
- b. Email: [BHUMgr@wcpc.us](mailto:BHUMgr@wcpc.us)
- c. [www.wcpc.us/bhu.html](http://www.wcpc.us/bhu.html) or [www.wcpc.us](http://www.wcpc.us)