

“Utilizing New Mental Health Tools in the Field”



David Money
Henry County Probate Judge/Commission Chair



Henry County- a County Older than the State

- ❖ Where is Henry County?
 - ❖ Southeast Corner
 - ❖ Between Barbour County and Houston County
 - ❖ Chattahoochee River separates Henry County from Georgia
 - ❖ ≈25 miles from Florida
 - ❖ Population of ≈17,000



Money Ford

- ❖ 40 Years as a Ford Dealer
- ❖ New Start
 - ❖ One of Fourteen Dual Role Judges in Alabama
 - ❖ Probate Judge/ Commission Chairs



*"When Money Matters...
Make It MONEY Ford!"*



A Strong Relationship

- ❖ Henry County Sheriff Will Maddox
 - ❖ Positive Relationship est. 2011
 - ❖ 4th Term
 - ❖ 27 Years in the Department of Conservation
 - ❖ Retiring in January





Henry County Court House
101 Court Square, Abbeville, Alabama

New Location

The Herndon Building
102 North Court Square, Abbeville, Alabama



The Real Ground Zero



ACT #2022-102

- ❖ Signed by Governor Ivey on March 8, 2022
- ❖ Henry County local legislation
- ❖ Allows an authorized and properly trained officer to make an **ON-SITE** determination of an individual's need for mental health evaluation and treatment
- ❖ Authorizes the officer to transport the respondent to a mental health facility
- ❖ Provides civil immunity to officers who, in good faith, place individuals with mental illness into protective custody



ACT #2022-202

- ❖ Signed by Governor Ivey on April 1, 2022
- ❖ Expands definition of “real and present danger” to include the risk that the individual may “cause, allow, or inflict serious bodily harm upon himself, herself or another individual... ..or be unable to satisfy his or her need for nourishment, medical care, shelter, or self-protection so that there is a substantial likelihood of death, serious bodily harm, serious physical debilitation, serious mental debilitation, or life-threatening disease”
- ❖ Allows us to “consider the respondent’s actions occurring within the two-year period immediately preceding the hearing” –this gives us a broader window of behavioral history to determine if an involuntary commitment is justified.



Administrative Order #16

- Issued on March 23, 2022 by the Alabama Supreme Court
- Originally issued because of COVID- has been extended several times (currently effective through September 30, 2022)
- Allows for virtual probate hearings
- Would be of great benefit in mental health hearings
- Henry County has not yet installed technology in our probate court but we plan to do so at our new location- another tool in the tool chest.



Mental Health Crisis Centers

- ❖ Mental Health Crisis Centers are currently located in Huntsville, Montgomery, Birmingham and Mobile
- ❖ Two more are planned to be built
 - ❖ Tuscaloosa
 - ❖ Dothan
- ❖ Will be of major benefit to Wiregrass area throughout Southeast Alabama



SpectraCare Training



- ❖ Seven Hour Mental Health Training Course
- ❖ Held last Wednesday, August 17, 2022
- ❖ SpectraCare Training Center (Dothan)
- ❖ Ten law enforcement officers (HCSO, APD and HPD; three DHR staff members; four probate court staff members)

