

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

RE: South Carolina Courts Mental Health Initiative Task Force

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of Article V, Section 4 of the South Carolina Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the South Carolina Courts Mental Health Initiative Task Force (Task Force) shall be created to improve the administration of justice for individuals affected by serious mental illness.

(a) Purpose. The Task Force shall develop policies, resources, tools, and other practices needed to create a more effective, fair, and timely justice system for individuals affected by serious mental illness.

(b) Membership. The Task Force shall consist of sixteen appointed members, each representing a Judicial Circuit. Members shall serve at the discretion of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South Carolina. The Chief Justice shall designate a Chair from the membership. The State Court Administrator shall serve as an ex-officio member.

IT IS ORDERED that the membership of the South Carolina Courts Mental Health Initiative Task Force shall be:

- 1ST Circuit - The Honorable Molly Edwards, Probate Court
- 2ND Circuit - Capt. Nick Gallam, Aiken County
- 3RD Circuit - Jeff Ham, Santee Wateree Community Mental Health Center
- 4TH Circuit - The Honorable Reneka McCoy, Probate Court
- 5TH Circuit - The Honorable M. Scott Rankin, Family Court
- 6TH Circuit - Vernon Kennedy, Fairfield Behavioral Health Services
- 7TH Circuit - Maressa M. Cuenca, Solicitor's Office
- 8TH Circuit - The Honorable Frank R. Addy, Jr., Circuit Court
- 9TH Circuit - The Honorable JoAnna E. Summey, Magistrates Court

- 10TH Circuit - Michael Cunningham, AnMed Health
- 11TH Circuit - The Honorable Debra R. McCaslin, Circuit Court
- 12TH Circuit - Sheriff J. Brian Wallace, Marion County
- 13TH Circuit - Mindy H. Lipinski, Public Defender's Office
- 14TH Circuit - Jeff Kidd, Solicitor's Office
- 15TH Circuit - The Honorable B. Alex Hyman, Circuit Court
- 16TH Circuit - The Honorable Carolyn E. Woodruff, Probate Court

This order takes effect immediately and remains in effect unless amended or rescinded by the Chief Justice.

s/Donald W. Beatty
Donald W. Beatty
Chief Justice of South Carolina

January 9, 2024
Columbia, South Carolina