

COMMITTED: A New Pbs Series on Outpatient Commitment

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Submission Type Workshop

Topic Behavioral Health

Status Submitted

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Participant(s) Kenneth Rosenberg (Chairperson), Alison Breaux (Presenter), David Pool (Presenter), Steven Foglesong (Presenter), Laurence Westreich (Co-Chair)

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Workshop Summary Memphis mode is a national framework for police and judicial intervention. Commitment courts and police engagement are trying to remedy the fact that 25% of people incarcerated in prisons and jails are there largely because of untreated mental illness. When you add SUDs, the number likely doubles. Understanding that this is a severe crisis in America, PBS is airing a special series on the topic that I produced and directed, scheduled to air in fall 2027. The AAAP event would preview the series and, more importantly, introduce our membership to police and judiciary struggling to solve this problem.

COMMITTED, slated for PBS in 2027, puts viewers into the middle of one community as citizens seek to avoid homelessness, incarceration, and tragedies that often befall those with severe mental illness and SUDs. The film series profiles judges, families, police, activists, and patients in Akron, Ohio, over four years.

Joining us are Judge David Pool, Shelby County Judicial Commissioner in 2016 and elected in 2022 to preside over Criminal Court. He is a leader in mental health and drug courts in Memphis. Also joining us are Lt. Steven Foglesong, an officer with the Memphis Police Department since 2003 and trainer for Memphis Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) at the police academy, the home of CIT training and Judge Alison Breaux runs the Mental Health Felony Court in Akron, Ohio, and is the main protagonist of the second episode of COMMITTED.

This will be a joint presentation involving the AAAP Law Committee, and Dr. Westreich will add his expertise on court-assisted treatment on the East Coast.

Workshop Interaction and Engagement Methods Multi-media usage - If you are considering integrating video clips or other media platforms, please inform AAAP staff prior to your workshop to ensure that the room and AV are adequately set up., Case Discussion - Use of cases to engage the audience in brainstorming about diagnosis, treatment planning, clinical issues.

Interactive Plan Description We will show 15 minutes from film series that follows patients in a criminal court over the course of four years in Akron, Ohio where there are robust programs to divert participants into treatment instead of incarceration. After the screening, panelists from the local police and judiciary and all workshop participants will discuss strategies for employ outpatient commitment in their own local areas of practice and how they may engage with law enforcement to create better outcomes for their patients. There will also be a discussion of the pros and cons of using the courts to leverage treatment.

Writing Educational Learning Objectives

Please list at least three (3) brief learning objectives below.

Learning Objective 1 Demonstrate the utility of outpatient commitment for persons with SUDs and co-occurring SMI (severe mental illness)

Learning Objective 2 Have a clear understanding of the procedures associated with outpatient commitment in the jurisdictions where AAP members practice.

Learning Objective 3 Know how to access appropriate legal and law enforcement resources in your (AAP member's) community.