

**202A.0811 Petition for hearing regarding court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment.**

- (1) Proceedings for court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment of a person shall be initiated by the filing of a verified petition for that purpose in District Court.
- (2) The petition and all subsequent court documents shall be entitled: "In the interest of (name of respondent)."
- (3) The petition shall be filed by a qualified mental health professional; peace officer; county attorney; Commonwealth's attorney; spouse, relative, friend, or guardian of the person concerning whom the petition is filed; or any other interested person.
- (4) The petition shall set forth:
  - (a) Petitioner's relationship to the respondent;
  - (b) Respondent's name, residence, and current location, if known;
  - (c) Petitioner's belief, including the factual basis therefor, that the respondent meets the criteria for court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment as set forth in KRS 202A.0817; and
  - (d) Whether, within five (5) days prior to the filing of the petition, the respondent has been evaluated by a qualified mental health professional to determine whether the respondent meets the criteria for court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment pursuant to KRS 202A.0815.
- (5) Upon receipt of the petition, the court shall examine the petitioner under oath as to the contents of the petition. If the petitioner is a qualified mental health professional, the court may dispense with the examination.
- (6) If, after reviewing the allegations contained in the petition and examining the petitioner under oath, it appears to the court that there is probable cause to believe the respondent should be court-ordered to assisted outpatient treatment, the court shall:
  - (a) Order the respondent to be evaluated without unnecessary delay by a qualified mental health professional to determine whether the respondent meets the criteria for court-ordered assisted outpatient treatment set forth in KRS 202A.0815, unless the court has already received the certified findings of such an evaluation conducted no earlier than five (5) days prior to the filing of the petition. The qualified mental health professional shall certify his or her findings to the court within seventy-two (72) hours from receipt of the order, excluding weekends and holidays; and
  - (b) Set a date for a hearing within six (6) days from the date of the filing of the petition under the provisions of this section, excluding weekends and holidays, to determine if the respondent should be court-ordered to assisted outpatient treatment.
- (7) If the court finds there is no probable cause to believe the respondent should be court-ordered to assisted outpatient treatment, the proceedings against the respondent shall be dismissed.

**Effective:** July 14, 2022

**History:** Amended 2022 Ky. Acts ch. 32, sec. 1, effective July 14, 2022. -- Created 2017 Ky. Acts ch. 154, sec. 3, effective June 29, 2017.