

the mental health board as to all aspects of the treatment and supervision of persons receiving treatment. These reports would include time and location of periods the patient spends outside of the treatment facility. We have found in our studies that there is sometimes a serious lack of communication between the treatment facilities and the mental health commitment boards. So we are trying to insure that there is indeed more coordination and communication between those, the institution and the commitment board. The mental health board could hold a hearing to determine that persons released from treatment are taking medications as prescribed. Some counties, Douglas County, has been doing this for some years. The county attorney in Lancaster County believes that that is not an appropriate process and so they haven't been following that. They believe that that is not the...they don't have statutory authority to do that. So we are clarifying that that is indeed a reason that they can initiate the process again. #7 provides that when a mental health board holds a release hearing for the person who is a mentally disordered sex offender, the records of the sentencing review committee established under the Mentally Disordered Sex Offender Act shall be made available to the mental health board. In addition certain persons who have been treated under the mentally disordered sex offender legislation may be released subject to supervision as determined by the mental health board for a period of up to two years. The mental health board shall be notified seven days prior to release of any person committed by that board. This again is to insure that there is more communication. Sometimes these individuals are released considerably early, earlier than the mental health commitment board feels is appropriate and this would allow the mental health commitment board to initiate a process before release to see if that release should indeed occur. #10 is that we provide that indigent patients shall receive medication and we have already discussed that. #12, it is clarified that the Department of Institutions does not have the authority to release persons without notifying the mental health board. We have had some cases where an individual has been sent to the custody of the Department of Institutions and very shortly thereafter they are released and the mental health board does not even know that those individuals have been released. So we are clarifying that that notification must indeed occur. #13, we have eliminated the preliminary hearing. I distributed to you earlier a sheet that shows you exactly what the process is. In the current process, and this is the current process, there is a preliminary hearing to establish probable cause, and then what we are doing is