

## **Application for assessment of person detained in a penal institution**

To: *Location*  
The Director of Area Mental Health Services, at:

Name of proposed patient: *Full name*

Proposed patient's date of birth: *Date of birth*

Of: *Address*

I believe the person named above, who is detained in the institution named above, to be mentally disordered and apply to the Director of Area Mental Health Services to have that person assessed. I base my belief on the following grounds:

*Note: Continue on a separate sheet if necessary*


I am the applicant named: *Full name of applicant who is either a superintendent/prison manager or person nominated by the superintendent/prison manager*

Of: *Position held and business telephone number*

I declare that I have attained the age of 18 years and have seen the proposed patient in person within the last 3 days.

I understand that an assessment examination conducted by a mental health practitioner nominated by you will either take place at this institution within 48 hours after you receive this application or within 72 hours if the examination is to take place in a hospital outside this institution.

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*Signature of applicant* *Date of application*

This application is accompanied by a certificate given by a mental health practitioner who has examined the proposed patient within the last 3 days.

***Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992.***

**Section 2 The statutory definition of mental disorder is:**

"Mental disorder, in relation to any person, means an abnormal state of mind (whether of a continuous or an intermittent nature), characterised by delusions, or by disorders of mood or perception or volition or cognition, of such a degree that it –

- (a) Poses a serious danger to the health or safety of that person or of others; or
- (b) Seriously diminishes the capacity of that person to take care of himself or herself; and "mentally disordered", in relation to any such person, has a corresponding meaning.

**Section 4 General rules relating to liability to assessment or treatment**

The procedures prescribed by Parts I and II of this Act shall not be invoked in respect of any person by reason only of -

- (a) That person's political, religious, or cultural beliefs; or
- (b) That person's sexual preferences; or
- (c) That person's criminal or delinquent behaviour; or
- (d) Substance abuse; or
- (e) Intellectual handicap