

17. *Escape or Attempted Escape from Institutional Custody.*

*Any person committed to the care and custody of the Authority pursuant to the provisions of this Article who escapes or attempts to escape while committed to institutional custody for examination or in-patient treatment shall be guilty of a felony pursuant to Section 139 of Article 27.*

18. *Establishment of Drug Abuse Programs in Correctional Institutions.*

*The Authority may establish and maintain, in cooperation with the Department of ~~Correction~~ CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, or other appropriate correctional or penal agency, programs for the prevention and treatment of drug abuse and the rehabilitation of drug addicts in any correctional or penal institutions within this State.*

19. *Authority Approval of Facilities, Services, and Treatment.*

(a) *No facility, institution, organization or individual, private or public, shall treat any person seeking treatment for the effects of drug addiction or any form of drug abuse, or extend any treatment, service, or method of rehabilitation to any such person unless so approved and authorized by the Authority. Such approval shall be granted pursuant to rules and regulations of the Authority which shall provide for periodic review of such approval.*

(b) *An application for the approval of the Authority shall be filed with the Authority. If the Authority proposes to disapprove the application, it shall afford the applicant an opportunity to request a public hearing. If so requested, a public hearing shall be held and may be conducted by one or more members of the Authority, as the Authority shall determine.*

20. *Liability of Public Officers.*

*In the performance of acts and duties required by this Article, any member or employee of the Authority, any peace officer, health officer, physician, superintendent of an institution, State's Attorney, or other person charged with or performing such acts or duties pursuant to this Article, shall have the same immunity from liability as have OTHER public officials.*

21. *Authorization to Release Information to the Authority.*

*All employees, agencies, boards, commissions or other bodies of the State or any of its political subdivisions, are authorized to and shall release any records, reports, statements, notes, and other information dealing with the problem of drug addiction to the Authority upon request of the Authority. This includes the release of names of individuals with drug problems.*

22. *Confidentiality of Information Assembled by the Authority.*

(a) *All records, reports, statements, notes and other information which has been assembled or procured by the Authority for purposes of research and study and which name or otherwise identify any person or persons shall be confidential records within the custody and control of the Authority, and may be used only for the purposes of research and study for which assembled or procured.*