

emergency basis to an emergency facility as defined herein.

(2) "Emergency treatment" means the treatment of an emergency admittee under the provisions of this subtitle.

(3) "Emergency facility" shall mean any facility designated in writing by the Department of Mental Hygiene as an emergency facility.

(4) "Mental disorder" means the behavioral and other symptoms which to a lay petitioner initiating the emergency admission process indicate a clear disturbance in the mental functioning of another person, and to a physician conducting an examination indicate one or more of the mental disorders described in the "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual--Mental Disorders" published periodically by the American Psychiatric Association. The term shall not include mental retardation.

(5) "Peace officer" means a sheriff, State police officer, municipal or other local police officer.

(b) Any interested person who has reason to believe that a person is mentally disordered and is in clear and imminent danger of causing grave and immediate personal injury to himself or others may complete, sign and file a petition for the emergency admission of such person with a peace officer. The petition form shall explicitly indicate the petitioner's name, his home and work addresses and telephone numbers, the name and description of the emergency admittee. The statement so made shall be under the penalty of perjury, and shall consist of the petitioner's knowledge of the facts leading to his conclusion that the emergency admittee requires emergency admission. The petitioner shall be required to describe the behavior and statements of the emergency admittee which have led the petitioner to reach a reasonable presumption that the emergency admittee is mentally disordered, including whatever behavior and statements of the emergency admittee have led the petitioner to conclude that because of the presumed mental disorder, the emergency admittee is in clear and imminent danger of causing grave and immediate personal harm to himself or others.

(c) The petition form shall provide notice that any petitioner completing and signing the form may be required to accompany the emergency admittee to a physician and that the State Department of Mental Hygiene may require the appearance of the petitioner at the mental health facility to which the emergency admittee is admitted within ninety-six hours in order to provide further information, and that failure to comply shall subject him to court order compelling his appearance. To the extent known the petitioner shall also be required