

Trueblood Programs



Washington State
Health Care Authority



Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement



Presentation Overview

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- Overview
- What are Forensic Navigators?
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- Forensic Partners

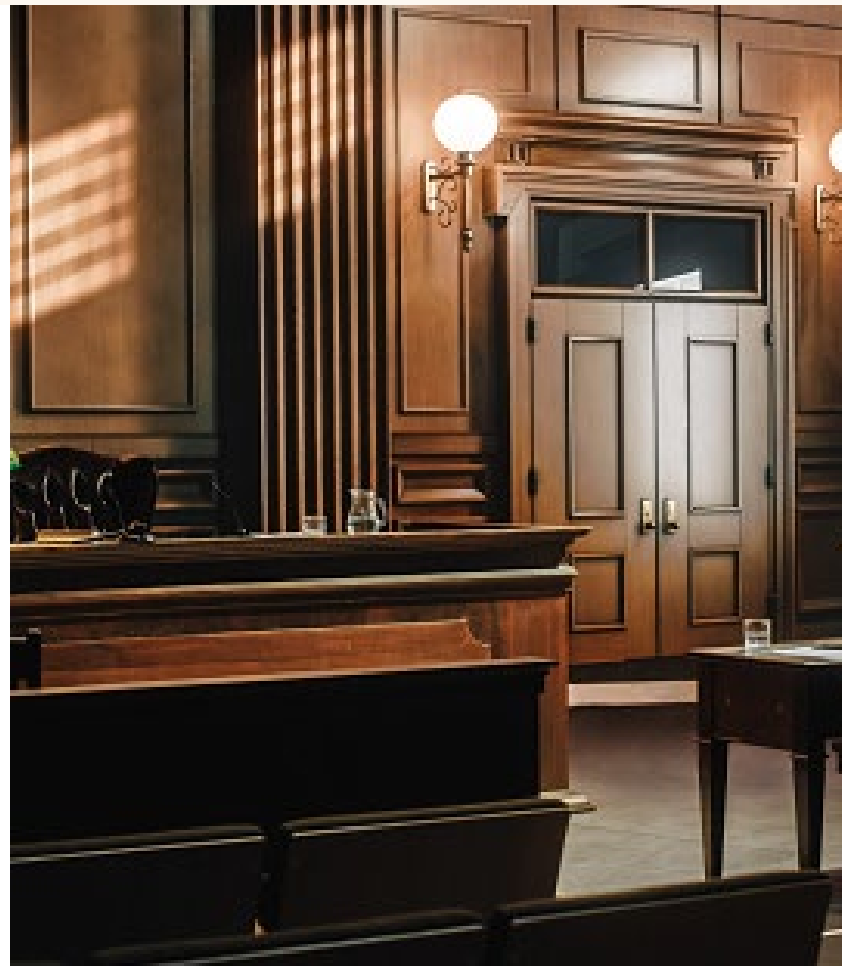


Trueblood Contempt Settlement

The Contempt Settlement Agreement outlines an array of services intended to:

- Better deliver the right care.
- Deliver the right care at the right time.
- Deliver the right care to the right people.
- Reduce the number of people who become or remain class members.

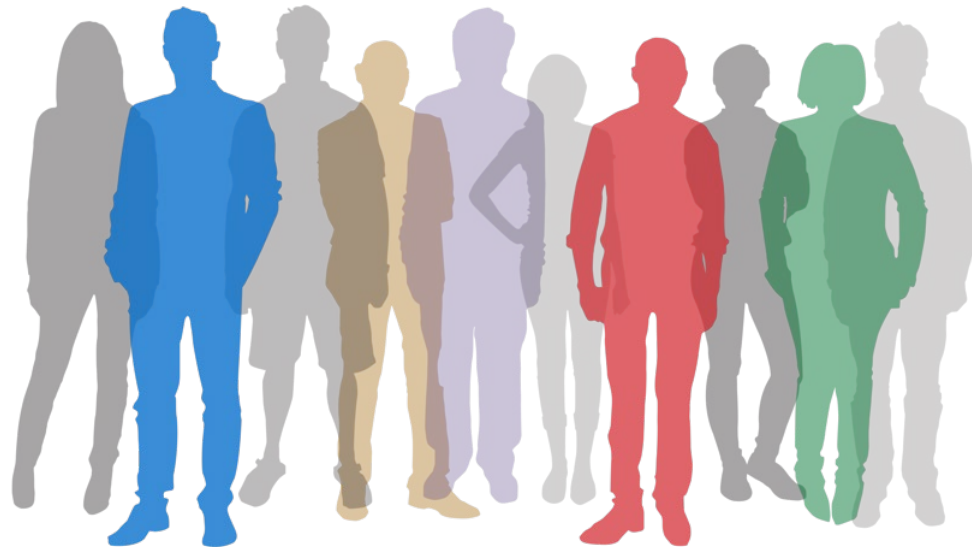
The state is in Phase 4 of implementation, which focuses on strengthening existing Trueblood programming.



Trueblood Class Members

All people who are now, or will be in the future, charged with a crime in the state of Washington and:

- Are ordered by a court to receive competency evaluation or restoration services through DSHS,
- Are waiting in jail for those services, and
- For whom DSHS receives the court order.



Regions by phase

Phase 1: 2019-2021

- Southwest region (Clark, Klickitat and Skamania counties)
- Pierce County
- Spokane region (Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane and Stevens counties)

Phase 2: 2021-2023

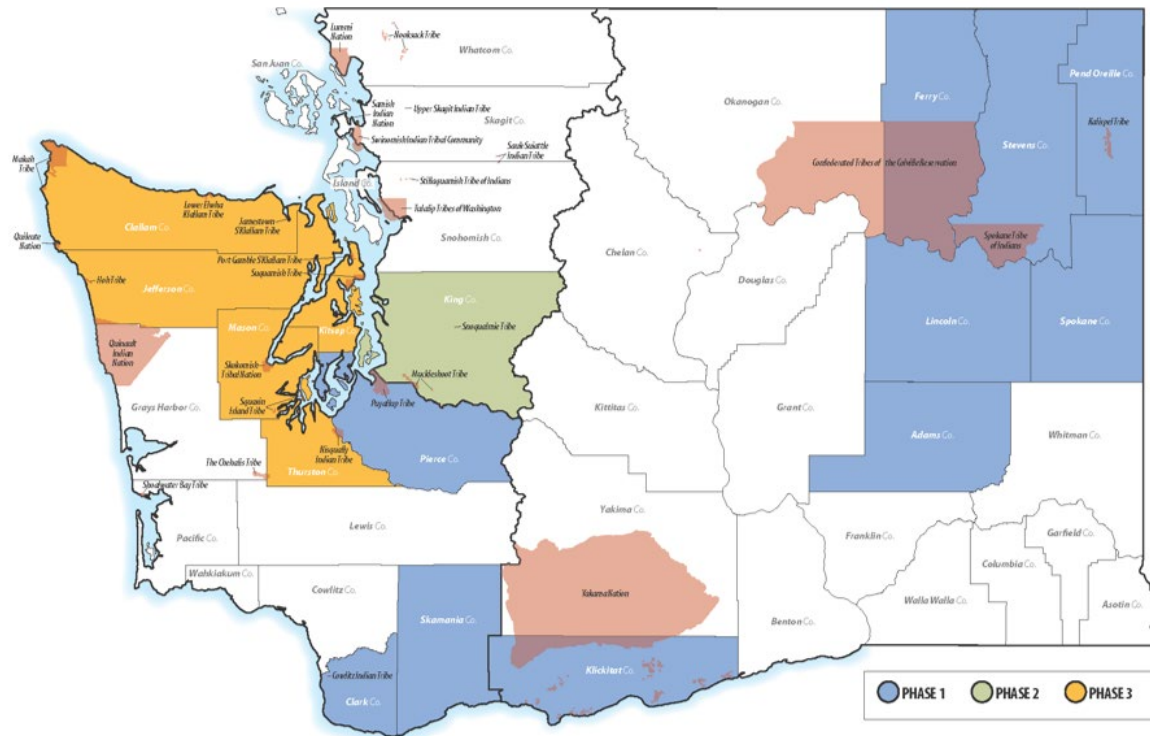
- King region (King county – Washington's most populous)

Phase 3: 2023-2025

- Thurston/Mason region (Thurston and Mason counties)
- Salish region (Kitsap, Jefferson, and Clallam counties)

Phase 4: 2025-2027

- Bolster existing phased regions



Forensic navigators

- Assist people referred for competency evaluation.
- Guide, support, and advocate for clients undergoing competency services or transitioning into the community.
- They are officers of the courts, interim case managers, and community liaisons; they help clients involved with the criminal court system.
- Coordinate transitions and warm handoffs to community resources.



Basic Overview

- Forensic navigator duties are:
- Mandated by Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 10.77.074.
- Informed by the Trueblood Settlement Contempt Agreement.
- Detailed in the Implementation Plan.



What are Forensic Navigators?

Officers of the court:

- Advise courts on whether defendants are suitable for Outpatient Competency Restoration and recommend diversion options.
- Report to the court on client progress in OCR and connection to community-based services.

Interim case managers:

- Work with clients to ensure they adhere to conditions of release, attend competency restoration classes, and obtain and take prescribed medications.

Liaisons with community service providers:

- Communicate regularly with tribal and community-based service providers (i.e., mental health counselors, substance use treatment providers).





Pre-hearing and Information Gathering

Information gathering:

- The forensic navigator obtains documentation from the court, health care, non-health care databases, community providers, court orders and other natural supports.

Meeting client:

- The forensic navigator collaborates with defense counsel (if necessary) to meet with, interview, and observe the client. Speaks with the client about outpatient restoration and other services and establishes the client's willingness to participate in outpatient restoration, adhere to medication management services, and abstain from non-prescribed substances and alcohol.

Recommended Services Plan:

- This is completed by the forensic navigator and sent to the court, and/or to defense counsel and prosecution. It provides a determination of suitability regarding outpatient restoration, diversion options and community supports that the client may be eligible to participate in.



Outpatient Competency Restoration Program

The outpatient competency restoration program is a community-based service that criminal courts can order as an alternative to facility-based competency restoration.

Phase 4 program update

- Enhancements to programs including new engagement specialist and data roles were put into contracts starting July 1, 2025.
- The forensic navigator connects with the OCRP provider and establishes an intake date/time and gives providers who the client is already connected with a copy of the OCRP Transition Plan, which includes the client's OCRP court order, forensic evaluation, and other collateral information. During this time, forensic navigators function as an interim-case managers and liaisons.



Post OCRP

- This is the period after the client has successfully completed outpatient competency restoration. The forensic navigator continues to function as an interim case manager and liaison for the client and has contact with the client at least once a month for a 60-day coordinated transition period.



Forensic Partners

Outpatient Competency Restoration Program

- The Outpatient Competency Restoration Program is a community/outpatient-based program where individuals can receive classroom/group and/or individual instruction using the Breaking Barriers to Competency curriculum.
- Medication management services is also a key piece in this program as it can increase competency when combined with the curriculum. In addition, mental health and substance use treatment services are reviewed so that referrals to providers can be made if necessary.



Forensic Partners

Forensic Project for the Assistance in Transition from Homelessness

- This program provides community support and assistance with housing as well as connections to other services providers in the community for people who are unstably housed or experiencing homelessness.

Housing and Recovery through Peer Services

- This program provides assistance with housing and housing related needs for people who are unstably housed or experiencing homelessness.



Forensic mental health system overview

Forensic Navigators help guide, support and advocate for their participants as they undergo competency evaluations, competency restoration services and transition back into the community, offering coordinated transitions and warm handoffs to community resources.

Forensic Housing and Recovery through Peer Services focus on helping participants overcome barriers to find and maintain housing. Staffed by people with lived behavioral health experiences, FHARPS teams foster engagement with participants who are referred by forensic navigators or FPATH.

As part of the Phase 4 Final Implementation Plan, HCA created the **Post FHARPS Global Leasing Program** to create housing opportunities for people exiting the FHARPS program who do not have available housing resources.

Forensic Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness offers targeted outreach and case management services for people who have been identified as likely to be referred to an additional competency evaluation in the next six months. The goal of the program is to connect people to behavioral health and mainstream community supports in hopes of preventing them from further involvement in the criminal court system.

The **Outpatient Competency Restoration Program** offers outpatient competency restoration when courts deem a person appropriate for community-based rather than inpatient services. OCRP is provided by contracted behavioral health agencies and includes psychoeducational interventions, assessments, medication management and requests for competency reevaluation.



Thank you!
Questions?





More Information

- **The Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement**

www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/BHSIA/FMHS/Trueblood/2018Trueblood/623_OrderFinalApprovalSettlement.pdf

- **Sign up for the Trueblood listserv**

[Washington State DSHS Behavioral Health Administration - Sign up for Trueblood related news](#)



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