



Section on Mental Health Law

The Mission of the [ISBA Mental Health Law Section](#):

To review proposed and existing statutes, legislation, rules and court decisions affecting persons with mental illnesses, substance abuse disorders and make recommendations to the Board of Governors concerning these matters; to provide training and education to lawyers concerning the interaction between mental illness and the law and legal practice; to provide information to mental health professionals and the public concerning laws and rules affecting persons with mental illnesses; to collaborate with other professional and advocacy organizations to promote awareness of mental illnesses and mental health and to increase mental health services.

General:

- ◆ Section fees are \$25 per year.
- ◆ To join, go to www.isba.org/sections

[Continuing Legal Education](#)

The Section sponsored one program during the year:

- ◆ **Innovations in Mental Health Law** (May 17, 2017)

Section members also receive discounts on section-sponsored CLE programs.

[Legislation](#)

The Section Council reviews proposed legislation that may affect their members' practice area. Highlights of the most recent legislative session include:

1. Number of bills reviewed: 60
2. Significant legislation:
 - a. Senate Bill 656 - Mental Health Record-Bail Bond
 - b. Senate Bill 881 - MHDDC-Jury Trial-Invol Admissn
 - c. Senate Bill 1276 - Crim Pro&Corr-Unfit Defendant

Other

- ◆ The [ISBA General Discussion List](#) allows members to pose questions and share information with fellow ISBA members from around the state.

[Newsletters](#)

Delivered electronically unless otherwise requested. During 2016-17 the Section published four newsletters. Articles include:

- ◆ 21st Century Cures Bill includes important changes to Federal mental health policy and funding (Feb. 2017)
- ◆ Appellate update (June 2017)
- ◆ Can a defendant be compelled to submit to a Rule 215 physical or mental examination? (Feb. 2017)
- ◆ Choosing a safe and effective mental health application: Understanding what factors should be considered to protect patients from a lack of FDA regulation (Feb. 2017)
- ◆ CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) and the emergency response to a crisis that involves the police (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Ex-small biz lobbyist tapped for mental health advocate post (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ A final court's not-so-final words (June 2017)
- ◆ Journalist speaks with Mental Health Section Council members (Oct. 2016)
- ◆ Letter from the Chair (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Letter from the Chair (Oct. 2016)
- ◆ Letter from the Chair (June 2017)
- ◆ Letter from the Chair (Feb. 2017)
- ◆ Mental health treatment inside the Illinois prison system and upon release from prison (June 2017)
- ◆ New legal rules regarding medical cannabis (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Premiere mental health treatment for emerging adults (Dec. 2016)
- ◆ Overview of the healthcare landscape as it relates to Medicaid managed care (June 2017)
- ◆ Race, ethnicity affect kids' access To mental health care, study finds (Oct. 2016)
- ◆ A resolution for 2017: Giving serious consideration to outpatient treatment (Feb. 2017)
- ◆ Unmasking client pseudo-mental capacity (Oct 2016)