

### Los Angeles Police Department Mental Evaluation Unit 911 Checklist

# If your family member is in crisis and is a danger to themselves or others,

#### Call 911

Hold this list in your hand when you call 911, so you can read from it.

Give the dispatcher the following information:

- Your name
- Address to which the police should respond
- □ **Nature** of the crisis (*Why you need the police*)
- Prior or current violent behavior
- Weapons or access to weapons
- □ **Name** of your family member in crisis
- □ Age of family member
- Height & weight of family member
- □ **Clothing** description of family member
- CURRENT location of family member
- Diagnosis (Mental Health and/or Medical)
- □ Current medications (On or Off?)
- Drug use (current or past)
- □ **Triggers** (what upsets them?)
- State what has helped in previous police contacts
- Identify other persons in the residence or at the location

**IMPORTANT:** You are asking a stranger to come into your home to resolve a crisis. They will only have the information that you provide to them. It is a good practice to <u>gather</u> as much of this <u>information</u> as possible <u>before a crisis</u> <u>occurs</u>.

# The Police Response:

## What to expect... Who will respond to your crisis?

- The 911 operator will dispatch **uniformed patrol officers** to your location.
- Officers will detain your family member, which *will include handcuffing* and is for the safety of everyone, including your family member.
- Officers will conduct a preliminary investigation to determine whether a crime occurred.
- Officers will conduct a preliminary mental health investigation to determine whether your family member is a *danger to self*, *danger to other(s)*, or *gravely disabled* due to a mental illness (CA WIC §5150).
- Your statements and historical information are an important part of the mental health investigation (CA WIC §5150.05).
- Officers will inquire about any *firearms* or *other deadly weapons*, and in most cases will seize them for safe-keeping (*pursuant to CA WIC* §8102).
- Officers will notify the Mental Evaluation Unit and a SMART unit (officer & clinician) will be dispatched if available.
- If your family member is an adult, the officers and/or the SMART unit cannot disclose information about him/her due to medical records-related privacy laws.

## **NON-EMERGENCY**

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health ACCESS – 1-800-854-7771 National Alliance on Mental Illness NAMI 1-800-950-6264 http://namilacc.org/