

Crisis Intervention Training

The Trueblood v. DSHS lawsuit challenged unconstitutional delays in competency evaluation and restoration services for individuals detained in city and county jails. The Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement establishes a plan for providing services to persons involved in the criminal court system and for providing treatment to people when needed so they are less likely to become involved in the criminal court system. The Trueblood Contempt Settlement Agreement includes a plan for phasing in programs and services:

- Phase 1: Pierce, Southwest and Spokane regions (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021)
- Phase 2: King region (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023)
- Phase 3: To be determined (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025)

The Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission provides the Crisis Intervention Team model to all public safety agencies as a form of community policing to improve public safety responses to people experiencing a behavioral health crisis. Police, fire, and medical personnel work together with behavioral health services to provide help to those people experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

CIT and the Trueblood settlement

As part of the Trueblood Contempt Settlement, the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission began offering Crisis Intervention Team training in the Pierce, Southwest, and Spokane regions by:

- Providing the eight-hour CIT course to all correction officers in these regions
- Providing eight hours of CIT training to all dispatchers in these regions
- Providing the 40-hour CIT course to 25 percent of peace officers in these regions

WSCJTC is leading this part of the Trueblood Contempt Settlement, in close collaboration with the Department of Social and Health Services and community stakeholders.

In a separate but related component of the Trueblood Contempt settlement, the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs is enhancing its mental health field response program, which pairs mental health professionals with law enforcement officers.

For more information

- CIT email: cit@cjtc.wa.gov
- Trueblood email: truebloodtaskforce@dshs.wa.gov
- If you are not on the Listserv and would like to receive information, please email the Trueblood taskforce email.

