



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) #:	720-5312-129917
TITLE:	Forensic Temporary Detention Orders (TDO)
ISSUE DATE:	October 13, 2026
RESPONSE DUE DATE/TIME:	December 7, 2026 at 10:00 AM local prevailing time
COMMODITY CODE(S):	94846 - Hospital Services, Inpatient and Outpatient 94847 - Health Care Center Services 94848 - Health Care Services (Not Otherwise Classified)
ISSUING AGENCY:	Commonwealth of Virginia - Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) 1220 Bank Street Richmond, Virginia 23218
DBHDS SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT:	Pamela Logan, Senior Procurement Officer Pamela.logan@dbhds.virginia.gov

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
#	SECTION	PAGE
I.	INTRODUCTION	2
II.	PURPOSE	2
III.	PRESENT SITUATION	2
IV.	DESIRED CRITERIA	3
V.	SUPPLIER QUESTIONS/DBHDS CONTACT INFORMATION	3
VI.	CONFIDENTIALITY/FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/RIGHTS RESERVED	3
VII.	RESPONDENT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS	4

Note: This public body does not discriminate against faith-based organizations in accordance with the Code of Virginia, § 2.2-4343.1 or against a bidder or offeror because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political affiliation, veteran status, status as a military family, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment.

Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) is committed to increasing procurement opportunities for small, women-owned, and minority-owned (SWaM) businesses.

- I. INTRODUCTION:** The intent of this Request for Information (RFI) is solely to gather information; it is not a formal solicitation. Information received may be used for informational and planning purposes. Nothing in this RFI should be construed as intent, commitment, or promise to solicit or procure goods or services. Responding to the RFI is not a prerequisite to submit a response to any subsequent procurement, should a formal solicitation be issued. Respondents should not provide any confidential or proprietary information. Information submitted in response to this RFI will become the property of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

DBHDS and the Commonwealth of Virginia will not pay for any information herein requested and provided by Supplier. DBHDS and the Commonwealth of Virginia will not be liable for any costs incurred by the Supplier related to this RFI. All such costs are Supplier's sole responsibility. DBHDS is not at this time seeking proposals and will not accept unsolicited proposals.

The respondent may be requested to provide estimated cost within their written response; however, such cost will in no way be used for evaluation or considered as a proposal.

Following receipt and review of the RFI responses, DBHDS may contact a respondent(s) to schedule a one-on-one meeting to gain additional understanding and/or obtain further clarification to the respondent's response to the RFI. Submitting a response to the RFI is a prerequisite to participation in the one-on-one meeting.

- II. PURPOSE:** The purpose of this RFI is to gather information to assist DBHDS in effectively analyzing potential costs, procedures, and challenges for a pilot forensic unit at a private psychiatric hospital, located in the Commonwealth of Virginia, for individuals ordered for inpatient emergency treatment pending trial, pursuant to [Virginia Code Section 19.2-169.6](#).

Specifically, DBHDS is trying to determine the following:

- The potential costs for DBHDS to create and run a forensic program at a private psychiatric hospital, including any renovation and programming costs.
- What the forensic unit would look like; including staffing, treatment, security, and outcomes.

DBHDS must assess the impact and costs of awarding a contract to provide inpatient level of care and quality emergency treatment to individuals ordered to inpatient care who are currently incarcerated at a local or regional jail.

- III. PRESENT SITUATION:** Currently, individuals with severe mental illnesses who are incarcerated either receive treatment in the jails or at DBHDS hospitals if ordered to inpatient care. Individuals with current pending legal charges are referred to as "*pretrial forensic patients*". One of the most common pretrial populations requiring inpatient care are individuals ordered for emergency treatment pending trial pursuant to Virginia Code Section 19.2-169.6. The legal criteria are identical to a civil commitments; that is, the individual must have a mental illness, there exists a substantial likelihood that as a result of the mental illness, in the near future, and the individual will cause serious physical harm to self or others or suffers serious harm due to a lack of capacity to protect self. The final criterion is that the individual requires treatment in a hospital rather than the local correctional facility. Therefore, DBHDS believes that this population will be comparable to the population currently served in private psychiatric hospitals and will not require any additional clinical upskilling of staff or forensic evaluations to the court.

In FY26, DBHDS admitted 2,406 adult individuals under a forensic status. Of those, 748 were admitted for emergency treatment from jails. This resulted in the DBHDS census being consistently over 60% forensic, with some hospitals over 90% forensic. This has far-reaching impacts including all DBHDS operated state hospitals operating at or above capacity, fewer beds available for civil admissions, and the development of civil and forensic waitlists.

Rather than relying almost exclusively on DBHDS operated state hospitals to provide forensic services, expanded opportunities for forensic services at alternative locations, including private psychiatric hospitals, will be beneficial to individuals determined to require an inpatient level of care, and the larger mental health and criminal justice systems. This also aligns with a December 2023 Joint Legislative Audit & Review Commission (JLARC) report that recommended that DBHDS explore alternative placements for forensic patients.

In the future, DBHDS may issue a formal solicitation and award a contract(s) to implement a pilot program that would provide emergency treatment pending trial to jail inmates at a private psychiatric hospital or hospitals. Since individuals

will be under criminal charge, individuals from the jail should be housed on a separate unit from other psychiatric patients at the hospital.

All individuals will be in jail custody and ordered to a hospital designated by the Commissioner of DBHDS “as appropriate for treatment of persons under criminal charge” (§19.2-169.6). Jail staff will transport individuals to the unit and then return the individual to jail at the end of treatment. If another court order to DBHDS is received, such as an evaluation of competency to stand trial (§19.2-169.1) that individual will be transferred to DBHDS for continued care, evaluation, and discharge planning by DBHDS staff. The unit may be asked to maintain an individual who is ordered for evaluation of competency to stand trial and/or mental state at the time of the offense; if that occurs, a DBHDS forensic evaluator will be deployed to complete the evaluation and then the unit can proceed with discharge to jail. Discharge planning will be minimal, as individuals may be discharged to jail as soon as they no longer meet civil commitment criteria.

If a contract is awarded, DBHDS’ expectation is that the Contractor shall work closely with the DBHDS Forensic Services staff to develop a treatment program that meets the clinical needs of the individual and is also responsive to the court’s orders. The actual number of beds to be provided in any year is dependent upon patient populations, needs, and available funding. The Contractor must create forensic programming that can be licensed as an inpatient hospital under and in compliance with the *Rules and Regulations for Licensing Providers by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*, [12 VAC 35-105](#). The contractor must also comply with the *Regulations to Assure the Rights of Individuals Receiving Services from Providers Licensed, Funded, or Operated By The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*, [12 VAC 35-115](#), except to the extent that the Commissioner grants an exemption.

IV. DESIRED CRITERIA: Below are the desired criteria for forensic units; however, if DBHDS proceeds with issuing a solicitation, these requirements may change.

1. Meet requirements to be licensed as an inpatient hospital under and in compliance with the *Rules and Regulations for Licensing Providers by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*, [12 VAC 35-105](#).
2. Prescribe psychiatric medications timely, , as indicated, with formal review process to ensure that medication adjustments are made quickly and efficiently.
3. Ability to pursue authorized representatives or judicial authorizations and administer medications when people lack capacity to make treatment decisions.
4. Create a therapeutic milieu supportive of treatment and recovery, that is also trauma informed.
5. Employe a Program Manager with strong communication and collaboration skills to work with DBHDS staff. The Program Manager (or designee) should have the ability to coordinate with jail staff for admissions and discharges and communicate treatment plans and medication needs upon return to jail to maintain psychiatric stability.
6. Ability to provide clear reporting to DBHDS that includes accurate data collection and management mechanisms.
7. Ensure strong communication with DBHDS, jails, and family members of patients.
8. Ability to maintain a safe and secure environment to maintain individuals under criminal charge and jail detainment.

V. SUPPLIER QUESTIONS/DBHDS CONTACT INFORMATION: If any supplier has questions about the RFI, questions shall be emailed to Pamela Logan, DBHDS Senior Procurement Officer, at pamela.logan@dbhds.virginia.gov. Please submit questions using the document titled, ***Supplier Questions***. Questions must be received before NOVEMBER 5, 2026. DBHDS will not respond to any questions emailed and received after this date.

Pamela Logan is the single point of contact for this RFI. Communication, regarding this RFI, with anyone else is prohibited.

VI. CONFIDENTIALITY/FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/RIGHTS RESERVED:

The Virginia Freedom of Information Act, § 2.2-3700 the Code of Virginia, guarantees citizens of the Commonwealth and representatives of the media access to public records held by public bodies, public officials, and public employees. All materials submitted by respondent shall be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and any other laws and regulations applicable to the disclosure of documents submitted under this RFI. In no event shall DBHDS, the Commonwealth, or any of their agents, representatives, consultants, directors, officers or employees be liable to a respondent for the disclosure of any materials or information submitted in response to this RFI that is not properly marked Confidential, as specified below.

DBHDS may disclose the contents of all responses to this RFI, except the parts that may be treated as exempt or excluded in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Each respondent, by submitting a response to this RFI, consents to such disclosure and expressly waives any right to contest such disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

If a respondent has special concerns about information which it desires to make available to DBHDS but which it believes constitutes a trade secret, proprietary information, or other information exempted from disclosure, such respondent shall specifically and conspicuously designate that information by placing "CONFIDENTIAL" in the header or footer of each such page affected, and in a separate letter explain why that material should be exempt from public disclosure. Blanket designations that do not identify the specific information shall not be acceptable and may cause for DBHDS to treat the entire response as public information. DBHDS will not advise a submitting party as to the nature or content of documents entitled to protection from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act or other applicable laws, as to the interpretation of such laws, or as to definition of trade secret. The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act or other laws shall control in the event of a conflict between the procedures described above and the applicable law.

VII. RESPONDENT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- A. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:** DBHDS will only accept responses to this RFI electronically through eVA. Responses will be received until the closing date and time specified above. It is the respondent's responsibility to ensure that responses are received timely. The eVA system allows for the secured and sealed electronic submission of responses. Respondent's shall make no other distribution of the response. Responses submitted elsewhere, including to other state or federal agencies, will not be accepted. Mailed, faxed, or emailed responses will not be accepted.
- B. SUBMISSION PROCESS:** Respondent's must be registered in eVA in order to submit an electronic response. For more information on how to respond:
1. Go to www.eva.virginia.gov;
 2. Click on "Supplier Training",
 3. Click on "Viewing and Responding to Solicitations Video" under Sourcing.

If a Supplier needs assistance submitting an electronic response, the Supplier must contact eVA Customer Care prior to the closing date and time. The contact information for eVA Customer Care is located at www.eva.virginia.gov under the "Get Help-Customer Care" tab.

Prior to the due date, Suppliers should:

- Check the status of the RFI on eVA's Virginia Business Opportunities, search by the RFI number for any updates, changes, amendments, cancellations, etc.; and
- Complete all attachments, amendments, exhibits, product information, if applicable, and attach it electronically to the Supplier's electronic submission.

- C. RESPONDENT'S RESPONSE:** The respondent's response to this RFI shall:
1. Include a cover letter, on company letterhead, with the following information. DBHDS prefers that company letterhead include the company name, address, and website address.
 - a. Contact person's name, telephone number, and email address.
 - b. The number of years the company has been in existence, providing the services.
 - c. The company's headquarters location.
 2. Include a detailed cost estimate. The estimate should include the following:
 - a. The annual average cost of programming (including staff, medications, and medical needs). Provide the total costs as well as costs per bed. Also indicate if beds billed will be based on beds filled or beds allocated to the program, regardless of if they are filled at the time. Include any additional information that DBHDS may use to assist in determining the correct number of beds for the program.
 - b. Cost of any renovations, if applicable. Specify if the costs would be one-time costs or ongoing costs.
 - c. A separate line-item detailing on average, the program costs increase year over year.
 3. Not exceed thirty (30) pages, excluding the cover letter and the detailed cost estimate.
 4. Not include any unsolicited information/documentation.

D. DBHDS QUESTIONNAIRE: The respondent should provide a response to each of the following questions. Do not add any additional information. DBHDS may contact the respondent if any additional information is required.

1. What is the name and address of the hospital/facility where your company would provide these services?
2. What is your company's experience providing treatment to individuals under forensic status or criminal justice involvement?
3. What is your company's experience in providing services to local and state governments?
4. What is your company's average length of stay for treatment of civil patients?
5. What is your company's experience hiring and training security personnel?
6. What is the anticipated number of security personnel needed for this program, given that the space has to be appropriate to treat individuals under criminal charge?
7. What is the plan for staffing challenges?
8. What is the plan for coverage in the event of staff vacancies; short and long term?
9. What is the plan for coverage in the event of staff calling out sick or staff emergencies that require unexpected leave?
10. Refer to rules regarding who may prescribe medications in Virginia. What is the plan for securing a prescriber and how many hours per week will a prescriber be available?
11. Will medication services be provided in-person or through tele-psychiatry; or a combination of both?
12. Detail your company's experiences, if any, with pursuing judicial authorization for medications and administering medications when individuals lack capacity to make treatment decisions.
13. In addition to medication management, please describe the clinical interventions you will provide for this population.
14. Explain the timeframe involved in developing a program as DBHDS has described; include the typical milestones, and the estimated timeframe between contract commencement and acceptance of individuals.
15. What is your company's typical staffing? Include the number of different positions (i.e. psychiatrists, therapists, etc.). Also include how staffing ratios may change based on number of beds.
16. Reference Section III. Paragraph 6., and Section IV. Paragraph 1.; does your company anticipate any difficulties meeting these requirements? What exemptions, if any, may be necessary?
17. Has your company been under any civil litigation, arbitration, proceedings, or have any pending judgements during the last five (5) years?
18. Has there been any regulatory sanctions leveled against your company or any of its officers, directors or its licensed employees who may provide services by any state or federal regulatory agencies within the past three (3) years? The term "regulatory sanctions" includes the revocation or suspension of any license or certification, the levying of any monetary penalties or fines, and the issuance of any written warnings.
19. Describe any additional recommendations and/or considerations that your company believes may be beneficial to DBHDS to assist in determining the best path forward to provide the forensic programming at private psychiatric hospital services. Include any concerns with any of the information that DBHDS has provided; and any proposed solutions or mitigations to address the concerns.