

## **Forensic Issues in Community Psychiatry**

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Track: Clinical

CE: CPA/BBS/BRN (1.5)

**POST TBD**

### Narrative

A career in community psychiatry is not typically thought of as one heavily inundated with forensic psychiatry issues. Given the enormity of homelessness amongst the severely mentally ill in Hawaii, as well as treatment access issues, it is becoming more the norm that a community psychiatrist has to have a skillset in dealing with psychiatric issues. In the outpatient setting these include: familiarity in the Assisted Community Treatment law, assessing for competency and helping clients obtain legal guardianship, interfacing with agencies like Adult Protective Services, advocating for homeless patients in acute care hospitals when such hospitals try to justify discharging very sick patients by peculiar interpretations of decisional capacity, and understanding legal encumbrances such as probation, parole, and mental health court. In addition, service programs helping the homeless in Hawaii increasingly involve legal issues: law enforcement assisted diversion, police Crisis Intervention teams, and oral ex-parte's. Working in a community setting like a community hospital, one needs familiarity with civil commitment, Orders to Treat, Conditional Release, and legal guardians. Finally, we examine the complicated process of treating some of the most severely ill, chronically homeless individuals, which involved guardianship, civil commitment, police assistance, and use of long-acting injectable antipsychotic medications.

### BIO

#### **Chad Koyanagi, MD**

**Psychiatrist, Department of Human Services; Institute for Human Services**

**Psychiatric Hospitalist, Castle Medical Center**

**Medical Director, Ho'omau Ke Ola**

Chad was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawai'i. He attended the University of Hawai'i School of Medicine. He completed his psychiatric residency and addiction psychiatry fellowship at UH. He is Board Certified in General Psychiatry and has Added Qualifications in Addiction Psychiatry. Chad is a community psychiatrist whose primary professional focus is to improve the care for under- and poorly-served populations, like the chronically homeless. He has been a psychiatric hospitalist at Adventist Health Castle Medical Center in Kailua, Oahu, Hawaii since 2013. He works half-time as a psychiatrist for Hawaii Medicaid. He also works for the Institute for Human Services, the largest homeless service provider in Hawai'i. Lastly, Chad has had professional experiences in the area of human trafficking and serves as an expert witness in Honolulu prosecution cases. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association.

## Learning Objectives

1. Describe three various ways a psychiatrist working in intensive outpatient programs may interface with the legal system.
2. Summarize the legal tools available to help the most gravely and chronically ill individuals.
3. Explain the impact of long-acting injectable medications on severely mentally ill individuals.