

**ASSISTED
OUTPATIENT TREATMENT
(W&I CODE 5345) (AB 1421)**

“LAURA’S LAW”

SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

Supervisor Farr and District Attorney Dudley

AOT Criteria

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All 9 criteria **MUST** be met in order to qualify.

- County resident, minimum age 18
- Serious Mental Disorder (WIC 5600.3), (may include co-occurring disorders)
- Person is unlikely to survive safely in the community

AOT Criteria

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Lack of compliance with treatment, indicated by:

- 2/36 months; hospital, prison, jail or
- 1/48 months; serious and violence acts, threats, attempts to self/others

(The element of dangerousness is a lower threshold than 5150 or 5350, not an imminent threat, not gravely disabled)

AOT Criteria

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- Person has been offered an opportunity to participate in treatment, and failed to engage or refused
- Condition is deteriorating
- Least restrictive placement
- Necessary to prevent 5150 condition
- Will benefit from treatment

Outcomes for Nevada County

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For 19 unduplicated individuals, for the most recent 12 months pre-treatment vs. 12 months post-treatment

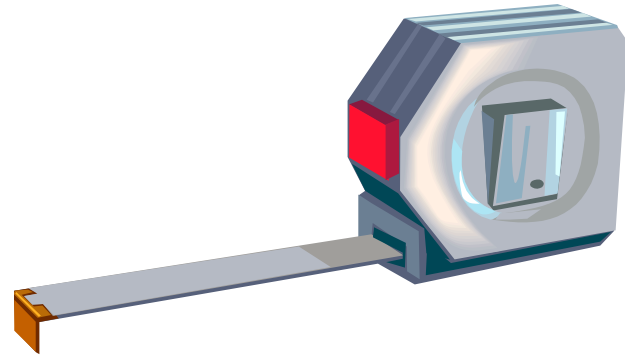
- Psychiatric Hospital Days
510 days vs. 290 days post-treatment = 43.1%
- Incarceration Days
687 days vs. 327 days post-treatment = 52.4%
- Homeless Days
254 days vs. 117 days post-treatment = 53.9%
- Emergency Interventions
18 contacts vs. 36 contacts post-treatment = 100.0%



Outcomes for Nevada County

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- Fewer hospital days
- Fewer jail days
- Higher employment rates
- Less homelessness
- Overall cost savings
- Better treatment engagement
- Higher Milestones of Recovery scores



ADMHS and Laura's Law

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- Under Laura's Law, a county opting-in does so through Board Resolution or via County budget process
- **2003** – Santa Barbara County conducted analysis, found lack of resources to provide required components
- **2004 MHSA** – ADMHS subsequently implemented Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) programs
- **2010** – Mental Health Commission discussion and ADMHS designation of 15 ACT slots for Outreach & Engagement
- **2014** – With the Affordable Care Act and new grants the department may have a greater capacity to meet the requirements of Laura's Law

Nevada County Assisted Outpatient Treatment Process



ADMHS Services Available for AOT

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- Community-based, multi-disciplinary treatment, 24/7 on-call support, individualized service plans, outreach, treatment team client ratios of no more than 10 clients to 1 staff (ACT/ACTOE)
- Personal Service Coordinator (PSC) for full service coordination
- Team approach
- Capacity for frequent contacts, extended engagement
- Full AOT implementation would require:
 - Expansion of resources for outreach and treatment
 - Preparation of documents for County Counsel in support of petition
 - Status reports to the AOT court at 60 day intervals or less
 - Housing solutions

Suggested Analysis

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- If so directed, key points of analysis would include assessment of resources, capabilities and costs to address the criteria for AOT and related support services including:
 - Impacts to County departments and partners (courts)
 - Community based multi-disciplinary mental health teams with designated service coordinators to facilitate all aspects of service spectrum
 - Determination of approximate numbers to potentially be served at key points throughout the system process
 - Outreach programming
 - Family and peer supports, rehabilitation and recovery services, including those for special needs clients
 - Mental health service integration
 - Special population needs (youth, homeless, cultural based)
 - Provision of housing supports

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