



Admission to First Step's Addiction Receiving Facility Under the Marchman Act

The Marchman Act is used to facilitate involuntary admission to the Addictions Receiving Facility for an individual who appears to have lost the power of self control due to use/abuse of alcohol or drugs.

Basic Requirements

Individuals admitted to the Addictions Receiving Facility must be

- At least 18 years old
- A resident of Sarasota County, Florida

Process

1. An involuntary admissions process using a "Petition and Affidavit Seeking Ex Parte' Order Requiring Assessment and Stabilization" may be initiated by:
 - a. spouse, guardian or any relative
 - b. a private practitioner
 - a physician licensed under chapter 458 or 459,
 - psychologist under chapter 490,
 - clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist, or mental health counselor under chapter 491),
 - other service provider,
 - c. or 3 adults having personal knowledge of the person's substance abuse impairment.
2. The Petition can be obtained, completed and filed at the Sarasota County Court House, Probate Division, located at 2000 Main Street, Sarasota, Florida 34236. Phone number (Clerk of the Court): 941-861-7400.
3. The Petition must be received by the reviewing judge no later than 4:30 pm.
 - a. The judge must review the petition and enter an appropriate order.
 - b. The Clerk of Court will then process an order that grants the petition so that it can be provided to the Sheriff's Office prior to the close of the business day at 5:00 pm.

If you have not sought to file a petition as outlined above, and you have a good-faith reason to believe there is an emergency requiring immediate attention after 4:30pm, you can contact law enforcement to investigate the matter. If appropriate, law enforcement can initiate an involuntary examination, pursuant to F.S. 394.463(2)(a), or an involuntary assessment pursuant to F.S. 397.677.