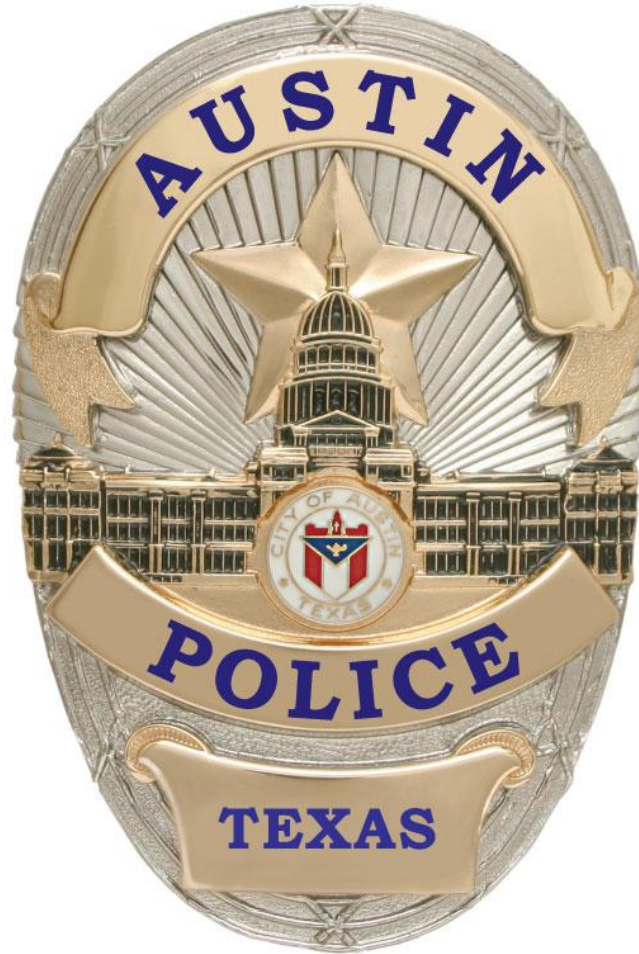


C.I.T

Crisis Intervention Team

Austin Police Department



NAMI-National Alliance of Mental Illness

- CIT (**Crisis Intervention Team**) programs are local initiatives designed to improve the way law enforcement and the community respond to people experiencing mental health crises. They are built on strong partnerships between law enforcement, mental health provider agencies and individuals and families affected by mental illness.

<http://www2.nami.org/template.cfm?section=CIT2>

The APD CIT Program



APD CIT Program

- Formerly known as the Mental Health Unit, the Austin Police Department Crisis Intervention Team Program was created in 1999 to address the rising need for education, training and tactics for law enforcement with regards to situations involving persons who are suffering from a mental illness.



APD CIT Program

- Separated into two divisions to serve the mental health community:

APD CIT Certified Patrol Officers

And

The APD CIT Unit



APD CIT Certified Patrol Officers

- Serves as emergency response officers of the CIT department
- Regular duty patrol officers
- 24/7 coverage
- Around 162 CIT officers city wide
- Receive 40 more hours of extensive crisis intervention training



APD CIT Certified Patrol Officers

- Responsible for responding to the majority of incidents involving subjects in an active mental health crisis
- Work with and collaborate on incidents with other mental health providers and physicians
- Request voluntary services if applicable
- Perform the **Emergency Detention**



What is an
Emergency
Detention?



Health and Safety Code 573.001



Sec. 573.001. APPREHENSION BY PEACE OFFICER WITHOUT WARRANT.

(a) A peace officer, without a warrant, may take a person into custody if the officer:

(1) has reason to believe and does believe that:

(A) the person is mentally ill; and

(B) because of that mental illness there is a substantial risk of serious harm to the person or to others unless the person is immediately restrained; and

(2) believes that there is not sufficient time to obtain a warrant before taking the person into custody.

Health and Safety Code 573.001

(b) A substantial risk of serious harm to the person or others under Subsection (a)(1)(B) may be demonstrated by:

- (1) the person's behavior; or
- (2) evidence of severe emotional distress and deterioration in the person's mental condition to the extent that the person cannot remain at liberty.

(c) The peace officer may form the belief that the person meets the criteria for apprehension:

- (1) from a representation of a credible person; or
- (2) on the basis of the conduct of the apprehended person or the circumstances under which the apprehended person is found.

(d) A peace officer who takes a person into custody under Subsection (a) shall immediately transport the apprehended person to:

- (1) the nearest appropriate inpatient mental health facility; or
- (2) a mental health facility deemed suitable by the local mental health authority, if an appropriate inpatient mental health facility is not available.

Emergency Detention Order

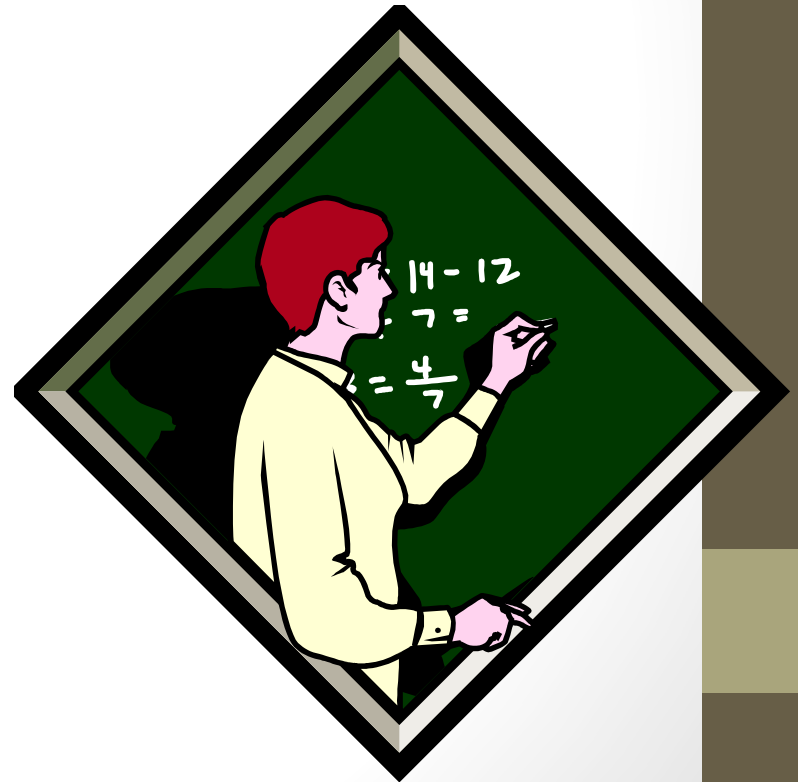
- Use of the Emergency Detention is intended to be a last resort used when voluntary services and community based care options are not available.
- Available 24/7
- The Order is valid for 48 hrs
- It is NOT an official commitment
- A doctor/physician may release the individual when the subject no longer meets the requirements of law.

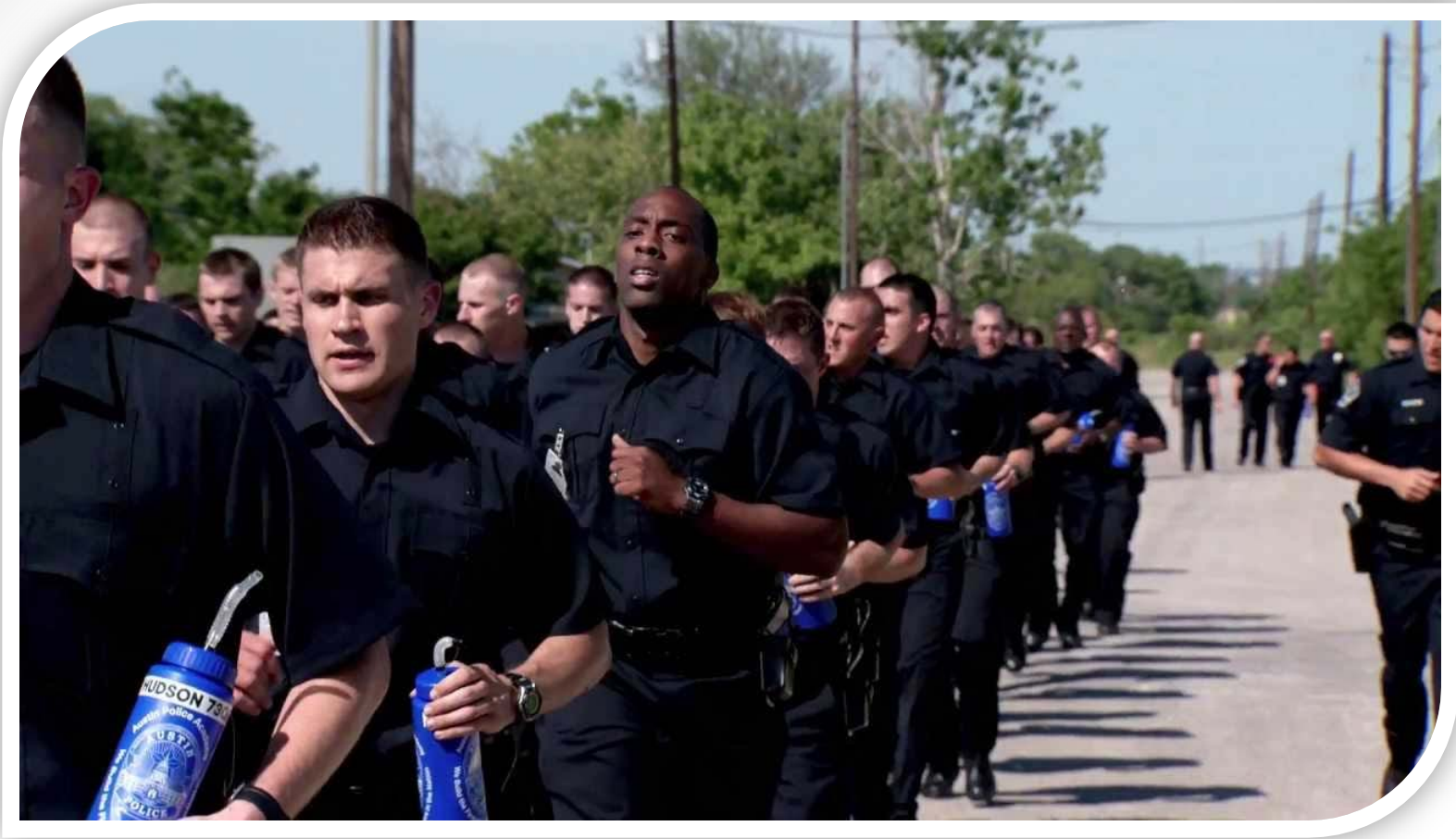
What are the
CIT Unit
Responsibilities?

APD CIT UNIT Responsibilities:

- Liaisons
- Training
- Incident Review
- Perform Follow up with consumers as necessary
- Set policy
- Manage the APD CIT Program
- Not an emergency response unit

Department Training: Cadet and Officer





Cadet Training

Cadet Training

- All APD cadets are provided with a 40 hour course regarding mental illness and the responsibilities of an officer when he or she encounters a consumer in crisis.
- Local licensed clinicians also teach along side the CIT Unit providing added experience and training to the course material from a mental health professional perspective.
- We cover the legal aspects of the Emergency Detention and how they apply to a consumer in crisis.
- While our officers are not doctors, we attempt to educate them about mental health symptoms and how to recognize common behaviors.

- The CIT Unit trains officers to manage encounters with consumers in a productive, efficient, and compassionate manner.
- De-escalation and least-restrictive outcomes are stressed, as are the concepts of jail diversion and referral to community based care.
- When speaking with consumers, thoroughness and patience are emphasized.



Patrol CIT Officers Training

Patrol CIT Officers Training

- After two years of law enforcement service, officers are given the opportunity to receive an additional 40 hours of training to become a Crisis Intervention Team Patrol Officer (formerly known as a Mental Health Officer).
- This training builds upon what the officers learned as cadets and broadens their knowledge and skill set when contacting those in a mental health crisis.
- These CIT Patrol officers are tasked with responding to incidents involving a person in a mental health crisis, evaluating those consumers, and ultimately determining if the person meets the criteria for an Emergency Detention (ED).

Other
Responsibilities of
the CIT Unit:
Incident Review



Other Responsibilities: Incident Review

- The CIT Unit reviews all calls classified as involving or relating to a mental health consumer who comes in contact with an Austin Police Officer.
- Based on these incident reports, the CIT Unit determines whether a phone or in-person follow-up is warranted.

Austin Police Department Statistics Involving Officer Contact with the Mentally Ill

2007 – 6361 Reports – 1251 ED

2008 – 6558 Reports – 1277 ED

2009 – 7203 Reports – 1690 ED

2010 – 7881 Reports – 2045 ED

2011 – 9026 Reports – 2540 ED

2012 – 10262 Reports – 3636 ED

2013 – 10454 Reports – 4373 ED

2014 – 10878 Reports – 4609 ED

*approximately

Community Collaboration



CIT Unit Duties:

- The CIT Unit functions as the liaison between APD and organizations in the mental health community, such as hospitals and psychiatric hospitals, ATCIC(MHMR), Bluebonnet MHMR, Military Veteran Peer Network, VA, NAMI, etc.
- Collaboration with mental health community members to effect positive changes in the lives of our citizens is one of the goals for the APD CIT Unit.

Recent Operations:
Jail Diversion and the
EMCOT Program

Recent Operations

- The CIT Unit works to increase communication between the various facilities and the department and solve problems when issues arise regarding consumers in our community.
- Recently the CIT Unit has partnered with the local mental health authority (ATCIC) to attach several licensed social workers/clinicians to the CIT Program known as Extended Mobil Crisis Outreach Team(EMCOT).

APD/EMCOT Program

- Licensed clinicians
- Mobile social workers that can provide or connect the consumer with many different services in our community
- They can be requested by any patrol officer who has contacted an individual in a mental health crisis.
- They can assist officers with jail diversion, mental health treatment, crisis intervention, program connections, housing, prescription issues, etc.

APD/EMCOT Program

- They also assist by following up with the consumers that have had recent police contact and try to connect them with local mental health services.
- They are referred cases by the CIT Unit and determine what, if any, further services are available to the consumer.



APD/EMCOT PROGRAM

- This new program was created in 2014 as a continued effort by APD and ATCIC to divert consumers from hospitalization and criminalization with patient treatment and programs.
- The Austin Police Department recognizes that collaborations such as these are very important to the community and department.



APD/EMCOT PROGRAM

10/1/14 – 9/30/15

- When EMCOT has been called to a scene involving a mental health emergency by APD, 89.4% of the people responded to were diverted from a possible ED or arrest.
- 546 consumers were diverted from 10/1/14 – 9/30/15.
- Consumers are not eligible for diversion if they are involved in:
 - Violent crimes in which another person has been assaulted.
 - Crimes involving damage to property.
 - Crimes involving theft if the property is not recovered.
 - Any felony offense.
 - Any offense involving the use or possession of a firearm.
 - Any situation in which the person meets criteria for an Emergency Detention.

APD CIT Program

- Due to better training and collaborations like the EMCOT Program, the Austin Police Department has a low occurrence of officer Response to Resistance incidents involving the mentally ill.

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015 YTD</u>
<u># Mentally Ill cases</u>	<u>10,806</u>	<u>8,576</u>
<u># Mentally Ill cases with Response to Resistance</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>146</u>
<u>% Mentally Ill cases with Response to Resistance</u>	<u>1.4%</u>	<u>1.7%</u>