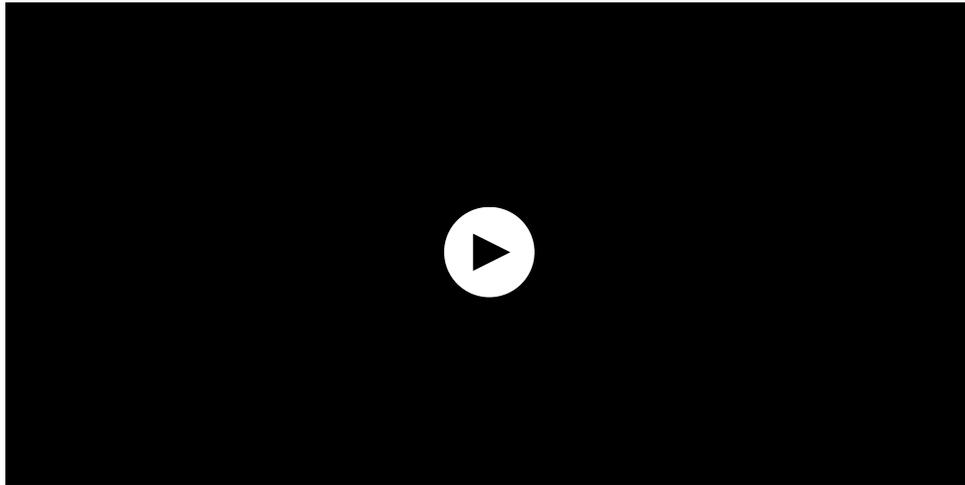


Mobile jail warden concerned over number of mental health patients

BY CHRISTIAN JENNINGS
WEDNESDAY, JULY 20TH 2016



There are more than 150 inmates on some sort of medication to address their mental illnesses. (SOURCE: WPMI)

<p>f 176 shares</p>	<p> tweet now!</p>	<p>in (https://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?mini=true&url=http://local15.com/news/mobile-jail-warden-concerned-over-number-of-mental-health-patients&title=&summary=&source=)</p>	<p> (mailto:?) subject: link%20for%20mobile-jail-warden-concerned-over-number-of-mental-health-patients)</p>
--------------------------------	------------------------	---	--

Local officials say the mental health population at metro jail in Mobile has been on a constant up-tick ever since the closing of Searcy hospital in 2012.

Alabama governor Robert Bentley and the Mobile's jail warden spoke today about the problem.

The governor says the issue is funding. Warden Trey Oliver disagrees, saying the problem goes far beyond money.



86°

(weather)

According to Oliver, when the state closed Searcy hospital, metro jail saw a major increase in mental health patients. In fact, he says the numbers nearly doubled and have continued to rise.

He says right now there are more than 150 inmates on some sort of medication to address their mental illnesses.

Governor Bentley acknowledges the problem, but blames inadequate funding in the general fund.

He also stands by the state's decision to move patients away from institutions like Searcy and into community based homes instead.

"Alabama is the model for the rest of the country dealing with mental health in what we've been able to accomplish in the last 5 years," Bentley said.

"Ever since Searcy closed we've seen a continual increase in our population for the mentally ill, and if anyone tells you closing Searcy was a good idea, they're not looking at the cold hard facts." Oliver said.

MORE TO EXPLORE



Here's what humans would look like if...
(<http://local15tv.com/news/offbeat/heres-what-humans-would-look-like-if-they-could-survive-car-crashes>)



No charges for police officer whose baby...
(<http://local15tv.com/news/nation-world/no-charges-for-police-officer-whose-baby-died-after-being-left-in-car>)



1 dead, 2 behind bars after home...
(<http://local15tv.com/news/local/1-dead-2-behind-bars-after-home-invasion-at-jefferson-place-apartments>)

SPONSORED FROM AROUND THE WEB



☀️
86°
(weather)

How Older Men Tighten Their Skin

The Modern Man Today

(<http://api.avidadservers.com/api/Asms/click?>

tid=5582ef2a1ee0530758383c1f&clid=564ee4b81ee0530c445a828d&p=1&sid1=2586324&sid2=48645521)

Catch a liar by this new trick, enter any name.

Instant Checkmate

(<http://tracking.instantcheckmate.com/?a=163&oc=1&c=246&s1=>

tid=5582ef2a1ee0530758383c1f&clid=564ee4b81ee0530c445a828d&p=1&sid1=2586324&sid2=48645521)



Dear Medical Students: How Life As A...

Forbes

(<http://www.forbes.com/sites/robertpearl/2016/08/04/letter-to-the-doctors-of-tomorrow-how-to-find-fulfillment-now-and-in-the-future/#2079b7502ce2>)

ADVERTISEMENT

Recommended by

(<http://www.outbrain.com/what-is/default/en>)

TRENDING



Mother accused of setting apartment on fire to kill her children (/news/nation-world/mother-accused-of-setting-apartment-on-fire-to-kill-her-children)

(/news/nation-world/mother-



Alabama's 'Grandparent Visitation Law' goes into effect August 1 (/news/local/alabamas-grandparent-visitation-law-goes-into-effect-august-1)

(/news/local/alabamas-grandparent-



Grandparent Visitation Law goes into effect Monday (/news/local/grandparent-visitation-law-goes-into-effect-monday)

v-goes-august-1)



NEWS (/)

WEATHER (/WEATHER)

SPORTS (/SPORTS)

COMMUNITY

STATION (/STATION)

TRAFFIC (/TRAFFIC)

MY JOBS (HTTP://MYJ)

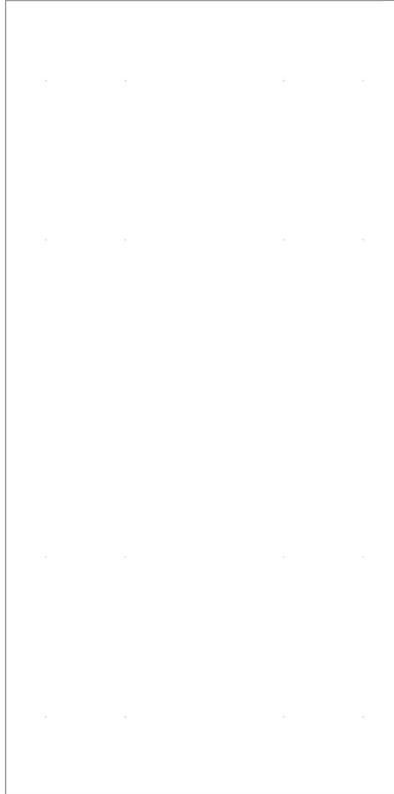
(/news/offbeat/19-year-old-woman-



MPD shares photos of woman wanted in Theodore home invasion (/news/local/mpd-shares-photos-of-woman-wanted-in-theodore-home-invasion)

(/news/local/mpd-shares-photos-of-woman-wanted-in-theodore-home-invasion)

ADVERTISEMENT



OFFBEAT NEWS



PHOTOS | Hang gliding over Rio de Janeiro and exploring the Swiss Hospitality House

(/news/offbeat/hang-gliding-over-rio-de-janiero-and-exploring-the-swiss-hospitality-house)



Candidate asks people to not vote for him, voters don't listen

(/news/offbeat/candidate-who-asked-people-to-not-vote-for-himwins)



Oregon woman invites homeless couple to live in her yard, neighbors upset

(/news/offbeat/oregon-woman-invites-homeless-couple-to-live-in-her-yard-neighbors-upset)

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER



LOCAL 15
@LOCAL15NEWS

86°
(/weather)

NEWS (/) WEATHER (/WEATHER) SPORTS (/SPORTS) COMMUNITY STATION (/STATION) TRAFFIC (/TRAFFIC) MY JOBS (HTTP://MYJ

QUICK LINKS

[News \(/\)](#)

[Weather \(/weather\)](#)

[Sports \(/sports\)](#)

[Traffic \(/traffic\)](#)

WPMI INFORMATION

[Terms & Conditions \(/station/terms\)](#)

[Copyright Notices \(/station/copyright\)](#)

[Privacy Policy \(/station/privacy\)](#)

[FCC Info \(http://stations.fcc.gov/station-profile/WPMI\)](http://stations.fcc.gov/station-profile/WPMI)

[Contact \(/station/contact\)](#)

[News Team \(/station/people\)](#)

[Contests \(/station/contests\)](#)

STAY CONNECTED



<https://www.facebook.com/local15news> <https://twitter.com/local15news>



MOBILE, AL

© 2016 SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP, INC.

WPMI NBC 15 provides local news, weather forecasts, notices of events and items of interest in the community, sports and entertainment programming for Mobile and nearby towns and communities in the



Alabama: Mobile, Prichard, Saraland, Satsuma, Creola, Bay Minette, Spanish Fort, Daphne, Fairhope, Irvington, Theodore, Tillmans Corner, Semmes, Loxley, Roberts, Bay Minette, Point Clear, Foley, Elberta, Lillian, Orange Beach, Gulf Shores, Atmore, Brewton, McIntosh, Thomasville, Citronelle, Chickasaw, Dauphin Island, Mount Vernon, and Baldwin; and in Florida: Key, Pensacola, Ft Walton Beach, Cantonment, Pace, Brent, Gulf Breeze, and Milton; and in Mississippi: Pascagoula, Moss Point, Gautier, Ocean Springs, and Biloxi.

[NEWS \(/\)](#)

[WEATHER \(/WEATHER\)](#)

[SPORTS \(/SPORTS\)](#)

[COMMUNITY](#)

[STATION \(/STATION\)](#)

[TRAFFIC \(/TRAFFIC\)](#)

[MY JOBS \(HTTP://MYJ\)](#)