



Abilene Police Department

News Release

NR 0503037

450 PECAN STREET – ABILENE, TX 79602 Ph: (325) 673-8331

Posted online at www.abilenepolice.org

Media Contact: Rick Tomlin, Public Information Coordinator

Ph: (325) 437-4529 Email: apdpio@abilenetx.gov

May 3, 2019

Jail Navigator Program

ABILENE, TX – On Monday, May 6, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. media and public is invited to come out for the announcement of the Jail Navigator mental health program. This event will be held at the Taylor County Jail, 910 S. 27th Street.

The City of Abilene, Taylor County and Betty Hardwick Center agree to mutually fund a Jail Navigator position at the Taylor County Adult Detention Center for a jail diversion program. Each entity will be responsible for 1/3 (\$1,436 monthly) of the cost for the creation and maintaining of the position. This position began on April 1, 2019.

The primary focus of this position will be on working with jail staff to identify persons in need of mental health services and diverting them from jail whenever possible.

The Navigator will be housed at the Taylor County Jail. This person will work with inmates identified as having mental health issues and decrease the incarceration of arrested persons who suffer mental illness. This program will reduce the budgetary impacts for all parties and will also provide mental health resources to those in need. If the person is not incarcerated and able to be diverted to community resources, they will assist these individuals with appropriate mental health services. Hours for the navigator position will be 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. Tuesday thru Saturday.

The terms of the Interlocal Agreement will be April 1, 2019, and end August 31, 2019, and shall renew automatically for additional periods of one year until terminated by one of the parties. This position will be managed and employed by the Betty Hardwick Center.

Respectfully,

Rick Tomlin
Public Information Coordinator

Stan Standridge, Chief of Police | 450 Pecan | Abilene, TX | 79602

"We work together to build and maintain a community of the highest quality for present and future generations"

[www.abilene
police.org](http://www.abilene
police.org)



@abilenepd



Abilene Police
Department

"You are the
first line of
defense
against crime"