



INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BELL COUNTY DIVERSION CENTER

RS-25-135

September 2, 2025

ILA Bell County Diversion Center

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- This interlocal agreement between Bell County, Central County Services and the City of Killeen is a cooperative effort between law enforcement and mental health professionals.
- The purpose is to identify, apprehend, and divert individuals 18 years of age and older who commit misdemeanor offenses while experiencing a mental health crisis from incarceration to appropriate mental health treatment solutions.

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- ❑ Killeen Police Department staff have participated in the “Steering Committee” for the development of the policies and procedures that apply to the use of the BCDC.
- ❑ The Killeen Police Department has trained its personnel on the use of the BCDC, including the BCDC referral process, mental health, and de-escalation techniques, and must do so annually.
- ❑ The agreement will automatically renew each year, for not more than five years. There is no cost to the City of Killeen.

Benefits

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- ❑ Immediate access to care rather than incarceration.
- ❑ Reduces stigma by treating mental illness as a health issue, not a criminal one.
- ❑ This approach shortens the time individuals have to wait to access services during a mental health crisis.
- ❑ Builds trust with the community, especially among vulnerable populations.
- ❑ Demonstrates a proactive, compassionate approach to public health and safety.

Recommendation

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- City Staff recommends that the Council authorizes the City Manager or his designee to enter into the Interlocal Agreement with Bell County and Central County Services for the utilization of the Bell County Diversion Center.