

Thomas V. Recore, MD
Forensic and Clinical Psychiatrist, Mississippi Department of Mental Health
MS Board of Medical License #: 24449
tomrecore@gmail.com

Education:

2015-2016 University of North Carolina Medical Center, Chapel Hill, NC
- Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship completed in June 2016
2011-2015 Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC
- General Psychiatry Residency completed in June 2015
2007-2011 University of Mississippi Medical School, Jackson, MS
- M.D. awarded May 2011
2005-2006 University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL
- Post-baccalaureate pre-medical studies
2001-2002 Officer Candidate and The Basics School, Quantico, VA
- Officer's Commission, United States Marine Corps
1997-2001 Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Board Certifications:

Board Certification in Psychiatry:

American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) – Clinically Active Status since 2016

Board Certification in Forensic Psychiatry:

American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) – Clinically Active Status since 2017

Professional Experience:

2024-Present: Medical Director, Mississippi Department of Mental Health (DMH)

- Provides clinical leadership and strategic direction for the state's behavioral health (MH) and intellectual/developmental delay (IDD) services.
- Provides tactical, operational, and strategic recommendations to DMH Executive Leadership to facilitate clinical decision making that aligns with the strategic vision of the MS Board of Mental health and DMH Executive Director.
- Oversees the development and implementation of the evidence-based treatment protocols, ensuring the highest standards of care across all programs.
- Provides clinical oversight in the implementation of best practices.

- Provides clinical leadership in the integration of mental health, IDD, and addiction services with community partners in the public and private sector
- Serves as a conduit for effective clinical decision making within all DMH facilities:
 - Acting as Transfer Advisory Panel Chairperson for high-risk patients
 - Facilitates movement of higher-risk patients from criminal justice system to IDD or state hospital facilities
 - Provides consultation for higher-profile and complicated forensic cases at the request of forensic evaluators
 - Provides consultation for clinical leadership problems re: patient care issues
- Serves as a DMH liaison to organizations peripheral to DMH to promote initiatives that improve the state's services and supports for people with mental illness, substance use disorder, or IDD including, but not limited to:
 - Advocacy organizations, such as MacArthur Justice and MS Disability Rights
 - Law enforcement organizations, such as the FBI and Sheriff's Association
 - Court systems, such as the Circuit Court Judges, Chancery Judges, Defense Bar, and Prosecutors
 - Legislators in the development and implementation of new laws
- Provides liaison and consultation to Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) in the delivery of crisis services at a local level consistent with state laws
- Recommends and assists in development of recruitment and retention strategies of psychiatrists and other medical and clinical professionals
- Develops the strategic vision for Forensic Services, aligning with organizational goals and objectives; developing and implementing clinical policies, procedures, and Forensic Services program development when needed
- Evaluates and recommends strategies the state should implement to serve people in community-based treatment and identify opportunities for diversion when appropriate
- Reviews capacity and staffing requirements for DMH Programs to achieve optimal clinical outcomes
- Drives innovation in implementation of programs and best practices, recommending strategies to enhance service delivery, and advocate for the mental health of MS citizens

2022-2024: DMH Forensic Services Director and Liaison

- Served as the first Director of Forensic Services for the MS Department of Mental Health, tasked with establishing stratified systems of care for forensic patients.

- Established and implemented stratified systems of care for forensic patients in MS by converting available inpatient and outpatient resources into medium-security inpatient facilities for both pretrial and continuing treatment patients.
- More than quadrupled inpatient treatment beds for defendants found incompetent to proceed legally, resulting in significant improvements in mental health treatment accessibility for these individuals and a remarkable reduction in wait times for those awaiting inpatient treatment in jails.
- Proposed, created, implemented, and chaired a robust Forensic Review Panel to consult with clinical treatment staff regarding placement of high-risk, court-involved patients.
- Served as a design consultant for \$32M renovation of an 84-bed maximum security unit at Mississippi State Hospital (MSH).
- Collaborated with advocacy organizations, including MacArthur Justice Center and Disability Rights Mississippi (DRMS) to establish improved systems of care for forensic patients in MS.
- Established guidance for and collaborated with community mental health centers through an MSH grant-funded competence restoration team (spanners) in jails across MS.
- Created and promulgated standards for certified forensic evaluators for MS in accordance with state law.
- During this time, continued to supervise and conduct competence to stand trial and sanity evaluations for MS circuit and county courts.

2020-2022: Service Chief, Substance Abuse Services, MSH

- Served as the Service Chief for the inpatient Substance Use Services (dual diagnosis) for male and female patients court-committed to inpatient treatment for substance use disorders.
- Designed and implemented individualized length of stay protocols to improve services and disposition plans for new admissions and relapsed patients with substance use disorders.
- Coordinated with MSH leadership and Service Chiefs to identify and implement risk management strategies to mitigate spread of viral illness during COVID outbreak.
- Supervised psychiatric and family nurse practitioners providing care for male and female patients with substance use disorders and serious mental illness.

2018-2022: MSH Forensic Services Liaison

- Served as a liaison between Mississippi's Circuit Court Judges, District Attorneys, and Defense Attorneys on administrative and legal issues related to the conduct of forensic criminal mental evaluations.

- Proposed and presented topics related to the Mississippi Courts and mental health services at multiple conferences, including meetings for judges, chancellors, prosecutors, community mental health center directors, and community outreach organizations.
- As a primary representative of the MS Department of Mental Health, worked extensively with MacArthur Justice Center on legal and procedural issues related to court-ordered forensic mental evaluations and treatment of defendants awaiting treatment in Mississippi.

2018-2020: Forensic Evaluation Service (FES) Director, Mississippi State Hospital (MSH)

- Proposed and established a forensic evaluation service which was responsible for the provision of all outpatient and inpatient circuit court-ordered forensic mental evaluations conducted at MSH.
- Proposed and implemented process improvement measures at MSH to improve efficiency and increase treatment capacity for the provision of care for forensic patients.
- Supervised and conducted competence to stand trial and sanity evaluations for MS circuit courts.
- Provided clinical and risk management consultation to inpatient psychiatrists as a member of the Discharge Advisory Committee (DAC) to recommend placement and determine risk factors for long-term patients who are transitioning to a lower level of supervision.

2017-2018: Private Practice as Mindful Grove, LLC

- In addition to full-time employment at MSH, started a private outpatient psychiatric practice as Mindful Grove, LLC in January 2017.
- Provided intensive outpatient (IOP) psychiatric care as an independent contractor.
- Provided outpatient clinical psychiatric care as the sole psychiatrist at Mindful Grove, LLC from 2017-2018, including collaboration with therapists and psychologists.
- Transitioned Mindful Grove, LLC from a clinical practice to a forensic consulting practice in 2018.

2016-2018: Forensic and Clinical Psychiatrist, MSH

- Conducted competence to stand trial and sanity evaluations for the State of Mississippi, providing expert witness testimony when called upon to do so by the Mississippi Circuit Courts.
- Provided inpatient psychiatric care and observation of patients with serious mental illness who were court-ordered for treatment with the dual purpose of treating their mental illness and restoring them to competence to proceed legally.

- Established two Outpatient (Jail-Based) Competence Restoration and Education Programs in 2017 and 2018 in collaboration with Region 8 and the Gulf Coast Mental Health Centers.
- Appointed to the Attorney General's Mental Health Task Force in August 2017.
- Proposed, established, and chaired the Transfer Advisory Panel (TAP) to optimize the use of maximum-security beds.
- Established a two-tier system for pretrial evaluation scheduling to facilitate timely forensic evaluations and admissions to Mississippi State Hospital.
- Supervised psychiatric and family nurse practitioners providing care for male and female patients undergoing circuit court-ordered treatment.

2015-2016: Forensic Psychiatry Fellow, University of North Carolina Medical Center

- Conducted competence to stand trial, diminished capacity, and mental state at time of offense evaluations for the State of NC.
- Attended and assisted in teaching senior UNC law students relevant mental health topics.
- Provided inpatient psychiatric coverage at R. J. Blackley Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center (ADATC) and Central Regional Hospital (CRH).

2011-2015: Psychiatry Resident, Duke University Medical Center

- Selected by peers and faculty to serve as 2014-2015 Psychiatry Executive Chief Resident.
- Nominated to lead as a tutor-trainee in 2015 Duke Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) workshop at the Duke Fuqua School of Business.
- Participated in Moral Injury and PTSD research. Primary presenter on the topic in several different venues.
- Lead academic inquiry into statutory guidelines and case history in testamentary capacity during 2013-2014 year, including presenting on the same.

2001-2005: Commissioned Officer, United States Marine Corps

- Deployed to Fallujah, Iraq in 2004 with Second Reconnaissance Battalion.
- Served as a rifle platoon commander and logistics officer in Camp Lejeune, NC, Twenty-Nine Palms, CA, and Fallujah, Iraq.
- Prior to deployment, served as non-lethal weapons instructor for more than 300 Marines and sailors.

- Awarded two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals and promoted to the rank of Captain.

- Honorable voluntary discharge from active service in 2005 to pursue a career in medicine.

Some Presentations:

2024 Tulane Forensic Symposium (April 2024)

- *Mississippi Forensics: Vision, Novelty, and the Inmates Running the Asylum*

2024 Circuit Judges Conference (April 2024) and Prosecutors Conference (April 2024)

- *Forensic Mental Health in MS: Making Our Communities Safer Places to Live*

2024 MacArthur Justice Center Educational Series: Spring Session (March 2024)

- *Mental Health Update – Competency and Restoration Services in MS*

2024 Mississippi Osteopathic Medical Association (MOMA) Conference (January 2024)

- *Safe Spaces: Preventing Violence and Managing Aggressive Behavior in Medical Settings*

2023 Mississippi State Hospital Residency Program Grand Rounds Series (December 2023)

- *Forensic Services 2.0: From Tradition to Transformation*

2023 MS Department of Mental Health Annual MH/IDD Conference (October 2023)

- *Simple, Not Easy: Creating a Compelling System of Forensic Services in MS*

2023 Fall Judges Conference (October 2023)

- *Forensic Services 2.0: From Tradition to Transformation*

2023 Balch and Bingham Labor Conference: Envision: The Future of Employment (September 2023)

- *Risk Mitigation, Mental Health Resources, and the Dichotomy of Leadership: A Primer for Human Resource Professionals*

2023 Tulane Forensic Symposium (April 2023):

- *Simple, Not Easy – Creating a Compelling System of Forensic Services in MS*

2022 Mississippi Osteopathic Medical Association (January 2022):

- *Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System in MS*

2021 Mississippi State Hospital Residency Program Grand Rounds Series (November 2021):

- *Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System in MS*

2021 Sheriff's Association Conference (Summer 2021):

- *Treatment of High-Risk Mentally Ill Offenders in MS*

2019 Mississippi Prosecutors' Association Conference (Spring 2019) and Judges' Conference (Fall 2019):

- *Forensic Mental Evaluations and Treatment in Mississippi*

2019 LPMA/MPA Joint Meeting in New Orleans, LA; panel presentation with Tulane Faculty:

- *Forensic Issues in Clinical Practice; a collaboration with Dr. John Thompson*

2018 UMMC Grand Rounds Presentation (February 2018):

- *Intersections: Psychiatry and the Law in Mississippi*

2017 Forensic Psychiatry Update: Issues at the Interface of the Law and Mental Health at UMMC:

- *Panel discussant with Dr. Phil Resnick, Psychologists, and Circuit Court Judges*