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BC Prosecution Service announces *Mental Illness and Mental Disorder (MEN 1)* policy

Victoria – The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) today released its new *Mental Illness and Mental Disorder (MEN 1)* policy.

MEN 1 provides guidance to Crown Counsel on charge assessment, alternatives to prosecution, bail, resolution discussions, and sentencing on matters involving individuals with mental illnesses. It also provides guidance regarding mental disorders (as defined in section 2 of the *Criminal Code*) relating to fitness to stand trial and the verdict of not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder (NCRMD), including the high-risk accused designation. MEN 1 includes further guidance to Crown Counsel respecting matters involving Indigenous persons.

The *NCRMD (Not Criminally Responsible on account of Mental Disorder) – High-Risk Accused Designations (NCR 1)* policy is simultaneously being rescinded.

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To learn more about BC's criminal justice system, visit the British Columbia Prosecution Service website at: gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice or follow [@bcprosecution](https://twitter.com/bcprosecution).