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Keeping the mentally ill out of jails

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By Ebony Hall - [email](#)

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY - AL - Tuscaloosa Sheriff Ted Sexton is taking matters into his own hands when it comes to the mentally ill and jail overcrowding. Sexton plans to use money in his own budget to launch a Mental Health Court.



It's a move county commissioners rejected. The Sheriff will use \$28,000 to hire two staffers to help keep mentally ill inmates on their medication when released from jail. Sheriff Sexton says when they get-off medication they get into trouble, and the jail stays packed.

The Mental Health Court will be just a four month pilot program. If successful, he will seek grants to keep it going.



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