

# ARKANSAS REGISTER

## Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



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Name of Department \_\_\_\_\_

Agency or Division Name \_\_\_\_\_

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Contact E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Name of Rule \_\_\_\_\_

Newspaper Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Publishing \_\_\_\_\_

Final Date for Public Comment \_\_\_\_\_

Location and Time of Public Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

## NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

The Division of Aging, Adult and Behavioral Health Services, of the Department of Human Services, along with the Office of the Arkansas Drug Director, hereby issues, for a public comment period of thirty (30) calendar days a notice of rulemaking for the following proposed rule under one or more of the following chapters, subchapters, or sections of the Arkansas Code: §§ 12-17-101, 12-17-104, and 20-64-1001.

Effective January 1, 2021:

**Background:** Arkansas Code § 12-17-101 et. seq. established the “State Drug Crime Enforcement and Prosecution Grant Fund,” for the purpose of funding state grant awards for multi-jurisdictional drug crime task forces (DCTFs) to investigate and prosecute drug crimes within the State of Arkansas. DCTFs are an association consisting of a minimum of two (2) law enforcement agencies, and one (1) prosecuting attorney, acting by agreement to jointly investigate and prosecute drug crimes in a defined geographic area or judicial district. The enabling statute for DCTFs sets out basic definitions, the grant application and administration process, matching funds, and appropriate use of grant awards. The statutes do not provide a clear, uniform guide for how DCTFs are to operate. As a result, DCTFs around the State vary widely in basic structure and operation which, at times, has made coordination difficult. Additionally, the State has seen a reduction in funding for DCTFs which means it is more important than ever for DCTFs to operate as efficiently as possible.

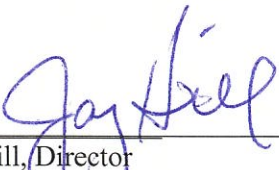
**Uniform Program Operations:** The Office of the Arkansas Drug Director amends its rules to establish uniform, statewide procedures for the operation, budgeting, and reporting as it pertains to state funded multi-jurisdictional drug crime task forces. The purpose of the rule is to build uniformity and increase accountability in the reporting of operations and expenditure of funding, making DCTFs more financially efficient. The rule clarifies the following as to DCTFs: (1) defines and states the objectives of DCTFs per the enabling statute; (2) clarifies local match requirements and specifies allowable use of grant funding; (3) defines the allowable organizational and management structure and personnel for DCTFs; (4) establishes reporting requirements to ensure funding is spent appropriately and efficiently; and (5) establishes mandated meeting requirements and training compliance.

The proposed rule is available for review at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Rules Promulgation, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access and download the proposed rule at

<https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/resources/promulgation-of-new-rules>. Public comments must be submitted in writing at the above address or at the following email address: [ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:ORP@dhs.arkansas.gov). All public comments must be received by DHS no later than November 9, 2020. Please note that public comments submitted in response to this notice are considered public documents. A public comment, including the commenter’s name and any personal information contained within the public comment, will be made publicly available and may be seen by various people.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact the Office of Rules Promulgation at 501-396-6428.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin. EL 4501962436

  
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Jay Hill, Director  
Division of Aging, Adult and Behavioral Health Services