

## What happens when you call 9-1-1 to report someone is suicidal?

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When you are concerned about someone being suicidal and call 9-1-1, the dispatcher will ask you questions about the person's location, behavior, and why you believe the person is suicidal. The dispatcher will also ask questions regarding their access to potential weapons that might harm them, if they are injured, or if they are under the influence of medications, drugs or alcohol.

An officer will respond to speak with the suicidal person. That officer may wish to meet with the reporting person first to get more details on what is causing the person distress and to try to determine a safe way to approach the individual.

If the officer does not have enough information to show an immediate danger, the officer may offer to take the person to the hospital in 'voluntary hold' status and arrange for a mental health clinician to meet with them. The officer also may discuss other options **such as** staying with a friend, talking to someone on the Careline at 1-877-266-4357, (or using recommended strategies on the homepage for those individuals who do not go to the emergency room).

If the officer acquires enough information to show that the suicidal person **is in immediate danger of self-harm unless taken into custody**, the officer will transport the person to the hospital in an 'involuntary hold' status, often **first** asking the person to cooperate. At the hospital, the person will meet with a mental health clinician who will decide whether or not to ask a judge to require the person to stay at the hospital.