

# **Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office**

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## **For Immediate Release**

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### ***Sheriff Releases New Book Focusing on Mental Health Shortfalls***

For two years, Sheriff Tony Thompson has been quietly writing a book addressing the convergence of mental illness and the criminal justice system that he has a front row seat to every day. The book, *Anyplace But Here: The Uncomfortable Convergence Between Mental Illness and the Criminal Justice System* was written during his lunch breaks over a nearly two-year period and gives a very real-world perspective of how law enforcement deals with and receives the mentally ill due to what he sees as a broken or dysfunctional mental health care delivery system.

“I had no idea when first taking office in 2009 how much mental health would impact my daily duties. Now, fifteen years later, I am overwhelmed by the influence and impacts that our mentally ill have on our administration. I felt like this was a book that every loved one and family member of someone suffering from mental illness needed and deserved” says Sheriff Thompson. “Our predicament today is not one that we can arrest ourselves out of, nor is it one that we can simply ignore; that approach has essentially gained us the situation that faces us now.”

Since its release on Amazon on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, the book has steadily gained momentum, now recognized as a “#1 New Release in Mental Health Law” on that platform. It is available in electronic formats (Kindle and Nook), paperback and hardcover, and it is now in most bookstores and retail outlets online. For more information go to [Hog Press](#).

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**A CRIMINAL CHARGE IS MERELY AN ACCUSATION AND THE DEFENDANT IS PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.**