

Pretrial Justice from the Crime and Justice Institute

The Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) at Community Resources for Justice (CRJ) is a leading provider of pretrial justice technical assistance, research, training and policy development. Throughout the country, CJI is helping jurisdictions reduce pretrial costs and increase public safety while ensuring fair and reasoned justice.

Utilizing proven practices such as risk assessment, effective supervision, and data-driven decision making, CJI is helping organizations efficiently use system resources by reducing unnecessary detention and failures to appear, while improving public safety by identifying highest risk defendants and reducing new criminal activity among those awaiting trial. For information, contact Lisa Brooks at lbrooks@crj.org or visit www.crj.org/cji.

Publications

- *Creating an Effective Pretrial Program: A Toolkit for Practitioners* offers practical guidance on developing an effective continuum of pretrial options.
- *The Cost of Pretrial Justice* and *Pretrial Justice: Costs and Benefits for Local Government* address the costs and benefits of pretrial release decision making for a variety of audiences.
- *Legal and Evidence-Based Practices: Applications of Legal Principles, Laws, and Research to the Field of Pretrial Services* examines the legal foundation of pretrial justice and evidence-based principles for effective pretrial intervention.

Technical Assistance

CJI is able to provide direct technical assistance in support of pretrial system improvement efforts. Technical assistance activities include:

- Analysis of pretrial population trends
- Modeling the impact of policy decisions on jail populations
- Pretrial justice system assessment
- Selection, development, validation and implementation of risk assessment tools
- Policy development and system planning
- Program implementation and training
- Performance measurement impact evaluation of pretrial interventions
- Cost-benefit analysis of pretrial operations

System Assessment

CJI takes a comprehensive approach to system assessment, providing stakeholders with the tools and information to improve system functioning. By employing quantitative analysis of jail population drivers and release trends using local corrections and court data, CJI enables stakeholders to make data-driven decisions regarding pretrial justice and local population management. Assessing whether a jurisdiction's pretrial risk tool is performing well for the local population is another important aspect of system assessment, and CJI does this through the selection, development, and validation of risk assessment instruments.

Training

CJI offers an array of training options to assist jurisdictions in their efforts to implement and improve legal and evidence-based pretrial practices. Our trainings can be customized to local needs and cover a variety of topics including:

- Overview of the pretrial justice system and legal foundations of pretrial justice for stakeholders
- Public safety and cost saving implications of pretrial justice practices
- Research and evidence-based principles of pretrial justice
- Internal and external communication strategies
- Performance management
- Practical applications of risk assessment, recommendations for detention or release, and supervision

Technical Assistance Jurisdictions

New York State
Contra Costa County, CA
Humboldt County, CA
Monterey County, CA
Riverside County, CA
San Francisco, CA
Santa Cruz County, CA
Yolo County, CA
Johnson County, KS
Minnehaha County, SD
Brown County, SD
Pennington County, SD