

22nd Judicial Circuit, City of St. Louis
Pre-Trial Release Office

19th Judicial Circuit, Cole County
Pre-Trial Release Office

American Bar Association Standards for Criminal Justice

Purposes of Pretrial Release

- The purposes of the pretrial release decision include providing due process to those accused of crime, maintaining the integrity of the judicial process by securing defendants for trial, and protecting victims, witnesses and the community from threat, danger or interference.
- [The American Bar Association - https://www.americanbar.org/](https://www.americanbar.org/)

Are you Afraid of Them or Mad at Them?

- Jails are for individuals we are afraid of, or flight risk from prosecution.
- To many times we detain people we are mad at, in an effort to deter criminal behavior.
- In the 1990's we built prisons and established minimum mandatory sentencing in an effort to reduce crime.
- In the early 1990's there were 12,000 prison bed and by 2000 Missouri had over 30,000 prison bed.
- In 2020 the Department of Corrections Budget was \$825 million. A \$44 million increase and included taking a maximum secure prison off line.
- Incarceration is a burden on society.

Evidence Base Practices in Criminal Justice

- The collection and study of information has helped the criminal Justice system to evaluate what works and what doesn't work.
- Statistic data gives us the ability to predict out come with some consistency.
- By using a risk assessment score we are able to determine offenders who post a greater risk to the community and flight.
- PTS can recommend condition of supervision to the court to help mitigate some of that risk.

Identifying Risk and Needs

- Pretrial is the first assessment point in the criminal justice system.
- Pretrial applies evidence based practices to determine risk to the community and flight.
- Pretrial assess needs and help the defendant addressing those need.
- Provide information about the defendant outside of the police report.

Pre-Trial Release Office

Established early 1980s

Current Functions

- Complete jail interviews with all individuals charged
 - Provide written reports to the Court with interview information and criminal history
 - Focus on Division 16B bail hearings as of July 2019
 - Process bond payments and recognizance releases
 - Until recently, bonds could only be posted during business hours or, for some types of cases, on an on-call basis. As of early 2020, they can be posted 24/7
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- **Historically, not a supervision office!**

What Pre-Trial Services in the 22nd Circuit is not

- No direct services (assessment, treatment, drug testing, etc.)
- External services ☐ GPS providers and non-profit social service agencies
- No drug testing

- Limited supervision
- Some call-ins and court reminders
- Capacity issue
- Historically, supervision = GPS monitoring

- Not the pre-trial equivalent of probation
- Protecting the community
- Improving court appearance
- Connecting to services

Pre-Trial Release Office

BONDING

Pre-Trial Bond Supervisor

- 4 full-time bond officers**
- 6 part-time bond officers**
- 24/7 coverage
- Bond processing (recogs, cash, 10%, property)
- Criminal histories
- Interviews

1 interviewer

SERVICES/SUPERVISION

Pre-Trial Services Coordinator

- Community resources
 - Contact people who missed court
 - Bench warrant amnesty day (fall 2020)
 - Judicial education
 - Re-scoping of GPS monitoring programs
 - Oversight of GPS monitoring programs
 - Limited data collection
 - Bail hearing support
- 3 full-time, grant-funded staff**
- Pre-trial services focused on mental health, substance abuse, and workforce/education

Places for People
Mission: St. Louis

Pre-Trial Services Coordinator

Pre-Trial Services Coordinator position

- Position published in October 2019; started February 1, 2020
- Drive the effort to establish pre-trial services and supervision in the Circuit using evidence-based principles and data
- Broad mandate to strengthen relationships with community providers, identify alternatives, and expand the options available to judges deciding on conditions of release
 - Coordination between Pre-Trial, the courts, and other actors: MSPD, prosecutor and Victim Services, The Bail Project, GPS vendors
 - Re-scoping of GPS program to include less restrictive and more tailored options

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) award, 2020-ZB-BX-0014

Justice Reinvestment Initiative: Reducing Violent Crime by Improving Justice System Performance

Why?

- Connect people to the resources they want and need
- Expand alternatives available to judges
- Provide a strong linkage to court to help people succeed pre-trial
 - Court reminders
 - Questions answered
 - Advocacy
 - Team approach

How?

- Three case managers + Sarah
- Dually housed at Carnahan Courthouse and Places for People (1) and Mission: St. Louis (2)
- Individualized pre-trial planning with each participant
- Emphasizing services over supervision → court appearance and avoiding new charges
 - Court reminders, checking in, updating court on engagement with services

What we hope to see long term

- Grant outcomes: court appearance, re-arrest, access/engagement with resources
- Use of community-based alternatives to meet underlying needs, decreasing risk of FTA or re-arrest
 - Setting participants up for long-term success
- Data collection

Resources

- Pretrial Justice Institute (PJI)
- Advancing Pretrial Policy and Research (APPR)
 - Trainings (often free!)
 - Published research
 - Best practices and the evidence base for pretrial strategies
 - Toolkits

- APPR's research summaries on common pretrial release conditions
 - Court date reminders
 - Drug testing
 - Location monitoring
 - Pretrial supervision

Cole County Pretrial Service

- The Pretrial Service Office in the 19th Judicial Circuit was established in 2013 to assist the judiciary in managing non-violent felony offenders awaiting trial.
- Cole County Pretrial is under the direction of the Presiding Circuit Judge.
- PTS started with one part-time employee
- Since that time the program has grown to a staff of 4 full time and 1 part time employee's, supervising 260 defendants .
- Since August 2013 Cole County Pretrial has saved Cole County 282,204 bed days.
- In 2020 the cost to house a prisoner in the Cole County jail was \$73 a day.
- The cost for PTS supervision is \$4.33 per day .(including electronic monitoring)

Cole County Jail Population and Pretrial Service Number 2015 to 2020

Year	Daily Avg Pop.	7 am Pop	New Bookings	New Bookings Daily Avg	Releases	Daily Avg Release	out of county holds mon/avg	Fed Holds mo/avg	County Pop	PTS Releases monthly	PTS Termination monthly	PTS Reports	PTS Log Ave	Daily Avg PTS	DFT Case Tracking	DFT re-engage
2015	157	136	5959	16.3	5960	16.3	37	39	4673							
2016	150	129	6108	16.7	6113	16.7	52	47	5168							
2017	149	126	6101	16.7	6079	16.6	53	54	5099	8.4	8	384		56		
2018	173	153	6002	16.6	5965	16.3	57	62.4	4699	13.7	6.25	528		75		
2019	175	149	5586	15.3	5580	15.3	60	63	4224	17	6.6	560		124		
2020	148	139	4560	12.4	4573	12.5	51	65	3,372	26.6	15.8	566	413	190		
Diff	27	10	1026	2.9	1017	2.8	9	2	852	3.3	9.2	6		66		

Jail and PTS Monthly Report 2021

Month	Daily Avg Pop	7 am Pop	New Bookings	Aug. New Bookings	Releases	Daily Avg. Release	Out of county holds mon/avg	Fed Holds mon/avg	County Pop	PTS Releases	PTS Termination	PTS Reports	PTS Log	Daily Avg PTS
Jan	168	143	371	12	372	12	49	58	301	32	10	53	477	238
Feb	166	138	339	12	352	12.6	46	49	303	29	24	52	555	248
March	164	134	465	15	459	14.8	53	47	400	33	34	86	617	256
April	161	131	406	13	400	12.9	56	50	361	24	17	62	528	256
May	176	150	434	14	413	13.3	58	53	356	27	17	65	525	253
June	178	149	391	13	398	13.3	57	55	352	20	29	78	622	247
July										31	32	73	554	255
August	191	163	391	12.6	391	12.6	75	60	339	36	42	70	592	249
Sept	190	158	350	11.6	360	12	60	62	316	31	27	69	438	250
Oct.														
Nov														
Dec														
2021														
2020	148	139	382	12.5	370	12.2	51	65	281	26.6	15.8	47	413	190

Jail Population (one day snap shot 7/20/21)

Type of Hold	number	% of pop
Federal	51	29 %
Out of County	8	4 %
City Holds	5	3 %
Sentenced	1	0.5 %
State P&P Viol / New Charge	19	11 %
Pretrial	90	50 %
Furlough	3	2 %
96-hr hold	1	0.5 %
Writ	1	0.5 %
Total	179	100 %

Jail Pretrial		
Crimes Against Person	41	42 %
Weapons	9	10 %
Property Crimes	13	14 %
Drugs	22	24 %
DWI/DWR/Traffic	5	6 %
Total	90	100 %

Pretrial Clients Offense Type (One day Snapshot) 7/30/2021

• Crimes against person	94	including 5 Murder charges	41
• Weapon Offense	33		
• Property Crimes	34		
• Crimes Against Justice	8		
• Drug Crimes	69		
• Traffic	7		

Cole County Pretrial Interview

- Pretrial Interview twice weekly
- Information provided in the report
 - Charges
 - Assessment score
 - Probable cause Statement
 - Out of County pending charges/probation/parole
 - Verified home plan
 - Verified employment
 - Substance abuse/mental health
 - Recommended Strategies/Release Conditions
 - Criminal History
 - Person who will assist with bond
 - Amount of bond that can be posted

Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS-PAT)

- Why the Ohio Risk Assessment Tool
 - Validated Assessment Tool
 - Dynamic vs Static information collection
 - Used by Department of Corrections
 - Scope of the tool

ORAS 7 Questions

Age at First Arrest

Number of Failure to Appear past 24 months

Three or more prior Jail incarcerations

Employment at Time of Arrest

Residential Stability

Illegal Drug Use During past six months

Severe Drug Use Problem

Pretrial Report

- The assessment report is e-filed with the court and is available to the prosecutor and the defense.
- Conditions of release and reporting instructions are submitted by PTS.
- Cole County Pretrial submits an average of 70 assessment reports a month.
- Other Reports
 - Supervision Log
 - Violation Reports and Bond Revocation Orders
 - Furlough requests

Methods of Supervision

- Defendants who are released on PTS supervision must:
 - report to PTS weekly.
 - Substance Abuse testing
- Electronic Monitoring GPS or Soberlink
- Monitor Outpatient Treatment both mental health and substance abuse
- Supervision log notes are maintained by PTS and provided to the court.
- Probation and Parole Supervision
 - Defendant being supervised by probation and parole, who are released on pretrial bond supervision continue on P&P supervision.

Treatment/Transitional Housing/Mental Health Programs

- PTS provides the initial referral for Drug Court, DWI Court, VA Court, Mental Health Court.
- PTS provide the initial assessment and referrals for:
 - Job Corp
 - In patient and outpatient Treatment
 - Transitional House Programs
 - Guardianship Referrals

Outcome Goals

- Community Safety.
- Accountability for the defendant in the community while on bond release.
- Provide assistance to the defendant in obtaining resources to address needs.
- To standardize pretrial recommendation/decisions and
- To maximize the number of successful pretrial decisions

Contact Information

- If you are interested in further information on the operation of St. Louis City or Cole County Pretrial Programs you can contact;
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