County Pretrial Release Programs

Presentation to the House Criminal Justice & Public Safety Subcommittee

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Overview

1. Program Descriptions
2. Funding
3. Program Outcomes
Pretrial Release Is Generally Granted in One of Three Ways

1. Release on Recognizance
2. Bond
3. Local Pretrial Release Program

Cash Bond – or – Surety Bond
Chapter 907, F.S., requires OPPAGA and programs to report information

**OPPAGA**

- **Program and Defendant Characteristics**
  - Funding sources
  - Number of participants
  - Defendant criminal history
  - Defendant outcomes

- **Pretrial Program Compliance With Statutory Reporting Requirements**
  - Annual report
  - Weekly register

**Pretrial Release Programs**

- **Annual Report**
  - General information and budget
  - Employee information
  - Defendants assessed
  - Participant information
  - Program performance

- **Weekly Register**
  - General information and funding
  - Defendants assessed
  - Participant information
  - Program performance
Survey of Pretrial Release Programs

28 programs responded to our survey covering 30 counties
Administration of Pretrial Release Programs

- 40% Sheriff’s Offices or County Corrections
- 35% Courts
- 25% Other County Offices
Pretrial Release Program Funding

- **State General Revenue**
  - 0 Programs
  - $0 Total

- **County Funds**
  - 28 Programs
  - $36.8 million Total

- **Grant Funds**
  - 5 Programs
  - $871,000 Total
Some Pretrial Release Programs Charge Fees

- Participant Fees
- Electronic/GPS Monitoring
- Drug and Alcohol Monitoring
- Administrative Fees

17 Programs
## Pretrial Release Program Outcomes

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<tr>
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<th>Program Range (Low – High)</th>
<th>Average</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issued a Warrant for Failing to Appear in Court</td>
<td>1% – 8%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrested for Any Offense While in the Program</td>
<td>&lt;1% – 13%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
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Source: OPPAGA Pretrial Release Program Survey data.
Pretrial Release Program Participants Who Posted Bond

- 27 programs reported that judges could order bond for defendants in the program
- 37% of participants in programs posted bond
Pretrial Release Program Reporting Compliance

- 27 programs provided weekly registers to their Clerk of Court
- All 28 programs provided OPPAGA with their annual report
- 20 programs reported participants’ prior criminal history
Additional information

Individual Programs

- Annual budget
- Requirements
- Reporting compliance
- Other statistics
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