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# Court Services Mission





# Court Services Mission

**To reduce incarceration through  
community-based supervision and  
therapeutic services**





# Common Misconceptions

- **Everyone arrested should be in jail**
- **Those found guilty should be punished in jail**
- **The people who get arrested are “different” from me**

# People who get arrested are...



Our neighbors  
Our co-workers  
Our relatives  
Our neighbor's kids  
Our kids...

**Citizens of Alachua County**





# Should everyone who is arrested remain in jail?

**Not according to...**

**Florida Rules of Criminal Procedures 3.131 and 3.132**

**Florida Statutes 903.047 and 907.41**

**Low risk offenders do not need high security**

**If in custody - no jobs, no family support, no tax revenue for Alachua County**



# Florida Statute 903.47

Pretrial release and detention...unless charged with a capital offense or an offense punishable by life imprisonment and the proof of guilt is evident or the presumption is great, **every person charged with a crime or violation of municipal or county ordinance shall be entitled to pretrial release on reasonable conditions.** If no conditions of release can reasonably protect the community from risk of physical harm to persons, assure the presence of the accused at trial, or assure the integrity of the judicial process, the accused may be detained.

# Florida Statute 903.47

**Every person charged with a crime or violation of municipal or county ordinance shall be entitled to pretrial release on reasonable conditions.**





# Florida Statute 907.041

## Pretrial Detention and Release

LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--It is the policy of this state that persons committing serious criminal offenses, posing a threat to the safety of the community or the integrity of the judicial process, or failing to appear at trial be detained upon arrest. **However, persons found to meet specified criteria shall be released under certain conditions until proceedings are concluded and adjudication has been determined.** The Legislature finds that this policy of pretrial detention and release will assure the detention of those persons posing a threat to society **while reducing the costs for incarceration by releasing, until trial, those persons not considered a danger to the community** who meet certain criteria. It is the intent of the Legislature that the primary consideration be the protection of the community from risk of physical harm to persons.

# **Florida Statute 907.041**

## **Pretrial Detention and Release**

**However, persons found to meet specified criteria shall be released under certain conditions until proceedings are concluded and adjudication has been determined.**



# Should low risk offenders be housed in jail?

High security  Risk to community  
Alternatives

Save \$\$\$\$

- Minor offenses don't require incarceration
- Supervision and services can reduce risk
- Incarceration doesn't reduce recidivism
- Alternative sentences can prove to be more difficult than incarceration



# Alternatives

- **Pay Cost of Supervision & Court Costs**
- **Complete Community Service**
- **Support families**
- **Maintain employment**
- **Participate in rehabilitative programs**





# Jail



- High Security = High Cost
- Expensive hardware
- Continual supervision & escorts
- Medical care, clothing & meals
- Higher cost to Taxpayers



# Key Objectives

- Provide information to the Court so Judges can make informed decisions about which offenders can be managed effectively in the community
- Use evidenced based and best practices i.e., risk and needs assessments, to operate programs as alternatives for low-risk offenders to remain in the community



# Court Services Programs

## Investigation and Community Supervision

- Pretrial Services
  - Investigations
  - Supervision
- Central Screening Team
- Probation
- Day Reporting
- Community Service
- EM/GPS and TAD

## Clinical and Therapeutic Programs

- Drug Court
- Mental Health Court
- Veterans Treatment Court
- OPUS- Treatment services for Court Services clients
- Metamorphosis
- Work Release
- Balance 360
- Benefits Coordination



# Pretrial Services

- **Accredited through the Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission since 2008**
- **Accreditation ensures we are performing to the highest standards of pretrial justice**
- **Though not mandatory, accreditation allows Pretrial programs to standardize practices, eliminate deficiencies and upgrade the quality of Pretrial Services based on Florida law and best practices of providing pretrial justice to the citizens of the State of Florida**





# Pretrial Services

- **First Appearance Investigations**
- **7 days per week**
- **Interview, Criminal History, Assess**
- **Provide information to the Court so Judges can make informed decisions about which offenders can be managed effectively in the community**
- **Recommendations to Court**
- **Those appropriate for release are released in the least restrictive manner while ensuring public safety**



# Centralized Screening Team

- **Provide further screenings and assessments on eligible defendants who remain in custody for 96 hours after First Appearance**
- **Work in conjunction with Jail staff and other community partners to release those defendants with costly medical or Mental Health conditions**
- **Provide release planning recommendations to the Court or CS program placement at any point during the pretrial stages**



# Supervision Continuum of Services



**Lower Risk**

**No Problems**

**No Services**

**Minimum Supervision**

**Higher Risk**

**Multi-problem**

**Intensive Services**

**Maximum Supervision**



# Community Service Program

- Community Service work in lieu of jail
- Indigent offenders may do work in lieu of costs & fines
- 190 Government or Non-Profit Organizations
- 22,374 hours of service on Community Work Crew FY 2014/15
- Work Crew- utilized due to staff reductions in some County Departments



# County Probation

- **Offenders sentenced in County Court**
- **DUIs, Misdemeanors, Domestic Violence**
- **Ensure Probationers adhere to Court Order**
- **Refer to Treatment & Social Services**
- **Collect Restitution and Cost of Supervision**
- **Conduct employment & home visits**



# Pretrial Supervision

- **Pretrial Release Supervision**
  - 3 Levels**
- **Minimum – call in**
- **Medium – treatment referrals**
- **Maximum - Electronic Monitoring/Global Position Satellite**
- **Cost effective vs. jail**



# Drug Court

- Intensive treatment begins immediately after release from jail
- Daily treatment, weekly Court hearings, frequent urine tests
- Serves both diversion and post plea defendants
- Long term reduction in recidivism
- Includes Mental Health Court and Veteran's Court



# Opus Drug Treatment & Drug Testing Lab

- Evaluation and outpatient treatment component for Drug Court and Day Reporting
- In-house services reduce referrals and allow for more timely coordinated case planning. Aftercare treatment for graduates reduces recidivism
- Drug Testing Lab-Provides on-site, state of the art drug testing by certified lab technicians for use as a behavioral intervention as well as supervision of DCS clients
- Results are accepted by the Court





# Day Reporting Program

- Intensive form of Pretrial Release Supervision for both Circuit and County Court defendants
- Provides intensive supervision and treatment services for offenders that can be managed outside of the jail
- Required urinalysis & breathalyzer testing
- Frequent reporting schedule based on risk level



# Metamorphosis

- Long term intensive residential treatment (up to 12 months)
- Community-based, non-secure facility
- Individual, Group and Family therapy
- Graduated phases - employment during the last phase of the program
- Eight Transitional Housing beds available upon graduation
- Client pays fee when employed



# Work Release

- **Minimum Security Correctional Facility**
- **Capacity 65**
- **Men and women**
- **Behavior based sanctions & rewards**
- **Work in the community**
- **Find job within 1 week if no job**
- **Licensed- 28 day Substance Abuse Treatment program**



# Clients Serviced FY 3/14

■	Pretrial Release Supervision	9,296
■	Electronic Monitoring/GPS	1,083
■	Probation	2,145
■	Mental Health Court	57
■	Drug Court Participants	128
■	Veterans Treatment Court	38
■	Work Release Residents	206
■	Metamorphosis Clients	131
■	Day Reporting	300
■	Community Service	2,495
■	Total	15,975



## **Fees collected FY 14/15**

<b>Drug Court</b>	<b>\$ 34,020</b>
<b>Metamorphosis</b>	<b>\$ 25,009</b>
<b>Probation</b>	<b>\$ 295,186</b>
<b>Work Release</b>	<b>\$ 282,789</b>
<b>Day Reporting</b>	<b>\$ 15,190</b>
<b>Community Service</b>	<b>\$ 18,139</b>
<b>EM/GPS and TAD</b>	<b>\$ 40,178</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 710,511</b>



# QUESTIONS?