

Tools for Safe and Smart Bail System Changes: Bail Determinants

Blog post by Lisel Petis dated August 3, 2023

View the [blog post here](#).

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| Severity | Level and seriousness of the alleged offense. |
| Nature and circumstances | Aggravating factors (e.g., causing an injury, using a weapon, resisting arrest). |
| Current supervision | Whether the defendant was on probation, parole or pretrial release at the time of the offense. |
| Criminal history | Defendant's criminal record, including prior arrests, convictions or jail sentences. |
| Court appearances | Defendant's history of complying with court dates. |
| Community ties and stability | Local family ties, length of residence, employment, transportation and other community connections. |
| Behavioral health | Past or current drug or alcohol abuse and/or severe mental health issues impacting the ability to appear in court or remain law-abiding. |
| Ability to pay | Defendant's financial resources may be considered (some states require). |