

Tools for Safe and Smart Bail System Changes: Pretrial Support

Blog post by Lisel Petis dated Sept. 15, 2023

View the blog post [here](#).

Support Tool	Success in Improved Pretrial Outcomes
<p>Court notifications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several studies have shown this tool can significantly reduce failures to appear • Other considerations for improved efficacy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Live, in-person phone calls (vs. text or email) – Include information about repercussions of missed court dates – Include information on how to plan for an upcoming hearing
<p>Behavioral health support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug/alcohol testing - No clear association; may be higher efficacy when testing is coupled with treatment • Drug/alcohol treatment - No clear association • Mental health treatment - Limited research exists; anecdotal research shows some success
<p>Basic needs support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation/child care - Limited research exists; some organizations have anecdotal evidence supporting success • Public benefits - Limited research exists; some programs show promising results • Housing - Limited research exists; some programs show promising results
<p>Pretrial supervision</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management/check-ins - Outcomes are mixed; may slightly improve pretrial outcomes (particularly failures to appear) • Outcomes may vary based on type and frequency of supervision • Some research indicates supervision for low-risk defendants could be counterproductive • Electronic monitoring - Outcomes are mixed; may successfully lower flight risk and rearrests, but can result in more technical violations