

# Advancing Pretrial Policy and Research

## Pretrial Resources

- **Examine Your Pretrial Justice System:** Understand your jurisdiction's current pretrial policies and practices by completing a system map exercise and jail overview analysis. Review the [Guide to Pretrial System Mapping](#) and APPR's [Jail Overview](#) materials. Use these activities to identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement.
- **Understand Pretrial Conditions of Release:** Use APPR's [videos on financial and non-financial conditions of release](#) to discuss the practices in your jurisdiction. Are they consistent with the legal principles that govern pretrial release?
- **Pretrial Laws:** Watch APPR's video [Pretrial Release and Detention: Getting It Right](#). Then, consider the following discussion question: Do judicial officers in your jurisdiction explicitly order people to be detained, or is pretrial detention usually achieved through financial conditions? Find more resources to examine your state and local pretrial laws [here](#).
- **Pretrial Research:** Examine the effectiveness of common pretrial practices. Use APPR's series of [pretrial research summaries](#), then consider whether your jurisdiction uses research-supported practices.
- **Community Engagement:** Are you leveraging the expertise of community members? Are specific community members or groups with relevant experience being invited to participate in your pretrial improvement process? The following APPR resources can support these conversations: [Strengthening and Sustaining Public Engagement](#) and the [Glossary of Racial Equity and Community Engagement Terms](#).
- **Public Safety Assessment Implementation:** Learn the basics of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) ([here](#)) and how the assessment tool works ([here](#)). Review the [PSA Implementation Guides](#), which are designed to help justice partners plan and manage the pretrial improvement process, including incorporating the PSA into your pretrial system. Each guide describes an implementation task and provides instructions, examples, and templates that can be adapted for use in your jurisdiction.
- **Public Safety Assessment Education:** Use APPR's [PSA Education Resources](#) (including templates, PowerPoints, and videos) to train and educate justice partners about the PSA. This will help them understand how the PSA supports your jurisdiction's pretrial goals.
- **Join the APPR Community:** The [APPR Community](#) is an online forum for justice professionals and communities around the country to connect, ask questions, share their experiences, and seek guidance from each other and APPR staff. Explore the posts and share your knowledge with the APPR Community.
- **Stay Current on APPR Trainings and New Pretrial Resources:** [Sign up](#) with APPR to receive monthly newsletters that announce new resources and check APPR's [News & Updates](#) to stay up to date on new (free) pretrial trainings and events.

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