



Pretrial strategies to reduce unnecessary incarceration safely

::PRETRIAL RESOURCES::

New resources provide counties with toolkits for implementation of model pretrial practices

Following AB 109 criminal justice realignment, many counties in California are facing the challenge of managing an increasing jail population with limited resources. Several counties are relying on costly jail expansion to cope with the increased offender population. However, less costly alternatives exist that achieve the goals of public safety.

This month, California Forward released [Best Practices and Resources for California Counties: Pretrial Detention and Community Supervision](#). The publication reviews national evidence and highlights successful pretrial programs in Marin, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, and Yolo counties. These programs offer community-based solutions to jail overcrowding that could be replicated statewide. The report was co-authored by CJCJ, ACLU of Northern California, Californians for Safety and Justice, Leaders in Community Alternatives, Crime and Justice Institute, and [California Forward](#). It is the second in a series aimed at providing counties with information to effectively implement AB 109 realignment.

In addition, [Californians for Safety and Justice launched their new website](#) this month, providing an invaluable resource for local safety solutions, including a toolkit to help county officials assess their jail populations.

Next week CJCJ will be releasing the second part of an in-depth study of Santa Cruz County's criminal justice policies and practices, *Local reform in a realigned environment*, providing a blueprint for replication of model pretrial services in other jurisdictions. Read the first installment [Lessons Learned: the Santa Cruz County story](#).

::WEBINAR::

Santa Cruz Chief Probation Officer Scott MacDonald and CJCJ's Kate McCracken present on local systems change in light of realignment

On September 27, 2012 Scott MacDonald, Chief Probation Officer of Santa Cruz County, and CJCJ's Kate McCracken presented on [Local reform in a realigned environment](#).

Hosted by [California Forward](#), the webinar addressed the local impact of realignment and emphasized that jurisdictions must examine targeted strategies to achieve public safety goals

while effectively directing limited resources. It highlighted the Santa Cruz experience and the value of data-driven techniques to deliberately restructure the local system.

Slides and audio will be available here: <http://bit.ly/PL0y7x>

::BAIL REFORM::

Justice Policy Institute's bail reform month delivered three insightful publications on the money bail system

The [Justice Policy Institute \(JPI\)](#) dedicated this month, September 2012, to bail reform. It produced three publications that provide in-depth analysis of the money bail system, demonstrating that the system unfairly impacts low-income communities, resulting in serious consequences for defendants and their families. JPI argues for an end to the for-profit bail industry, which undermines the judicial system, and the promotion of institutionalized pretrial services. [Read the series.](#)

These publications follow a CJCJ publication in May 2012, focusing on the proliferation of the bail industry lobby in California, entitled [*The Commercial Bail Industry: Profit or Public Safety?*](#)

CJCJ's blogs explore pretrial services as an alternative to money bail:

- ~ **Randall Shelden** explores the problems with a system of money bail in [*Jails, poorhouses, and debtor's prisons*](#).
- ~ **Selena Teji** discusses the advantages of robust pretrial services to reduce California's high unsentenced inmate population in [*Overcrowded jails, the bail industry, and pretrial alternatives*](#).

::TEASER::

California Sentencing Institute releasing juvenile justice map, October 2012

Following, the release of CJCJ's [California Sentencing Institute \(CASI\)](#) in July, CJCJ is proud to announce the imminent release of a complementary juvenile justice map. CASI displays detailed crime and incarceration trends for California's 58 counties. The new juvenile justice map, scheduled for release next month will feature relevant juvenile justice data including information on youth confinement in both local and state facilities, and transfers to adult criminal court. Check back at <http://casi.cjcj.org/> for the map release, or contact cjcjmedia@cjcj.org for more information.

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