

Human Resources – Pretrial Services



Mission Statement

- The Mission of Pretrial Services is to reduce unnecessary pretrial detention in Davis County.

Prior Year Inputs/Outputs

FTE (2024):

FTE's: Five Case Managers, One Legal Tech, a Case Manager Supervisor position and a Pretrial Coordinator.

Core Functions & Services

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1. Conduct pretrial risk assessments and provide judicial officers with appropriate pretrial release options.
2. Provide community supervision based on risk and effective use of evidence-based practices.
3. Reasonably assure defendant's return to court by providing notification of upcoming court dates and applying supervision strategies aimed at community safety.
4. Support interventions that reduce the likelihood of criminal behavior.

Pretrial services programs are and can be valuable resources for making significant improvements in the criminal justice system because they are used in the early stages of the criminal case process. Unnecessary detention before trial not only results in unnecessary jail costs, it also deprives defendants of their liberty. From a policy perspective, decisions about detaining or releasing defendants should balance the benefits of release and the risk of flight or threat to public safety. Pretrial service programs offer the court alternatives to incarceration with monitoring/supervising defendants by improving the breadth and quality of information about defendants—including identifying barriers to success like housing and employment situations, relationships with family, and other ties to the community—and by providing services/information to address identified needs and/or barriers.

The National Association of Pretrial Service Agencies (NAPSA) has established legal and evidence-based practices for effective Pretrial agencies. Our **guiding principles**, core functions and services are based on those national standards. **1.** The presumption of innocence. **2.** non-financial conditions of release. **3.** Least restrictive conditions to reasonably assure court appearance and public safety.

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Current Year Projected Outcomes

2025 Budget Initiatives / Status Update

This year, Davis County Pretrial Services implemented several key initiatives aimed at streamlining operations and enhancing the effectiveness of pretrial supervision. A significant development included updating and refining the use of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) tool.

Budget initiatives and status update

1. Enhanced Public Safety Assessment (PSA) Utilization

- **Initiative:** Improved the scoring and interpretation of the PSA tool through training and information gathered from technical assistance.
- **Status Update:** The updated PSA application is currently providing more accurate and informative recommendations for judicial release decisions. Judges continue to exercise their discretion when considering release, but the enhanced PSA is a valuable resource.

2. Office Relocation

- **Initiative:** Pretrial Services relocated its offices in the Farmington Old Memorial Court House, swapping with the Civil Attorneys.
- **Status Update:** The relocation is complete, and the department added, office furniture, additional shelving to optimize storage and organization of office supplies.

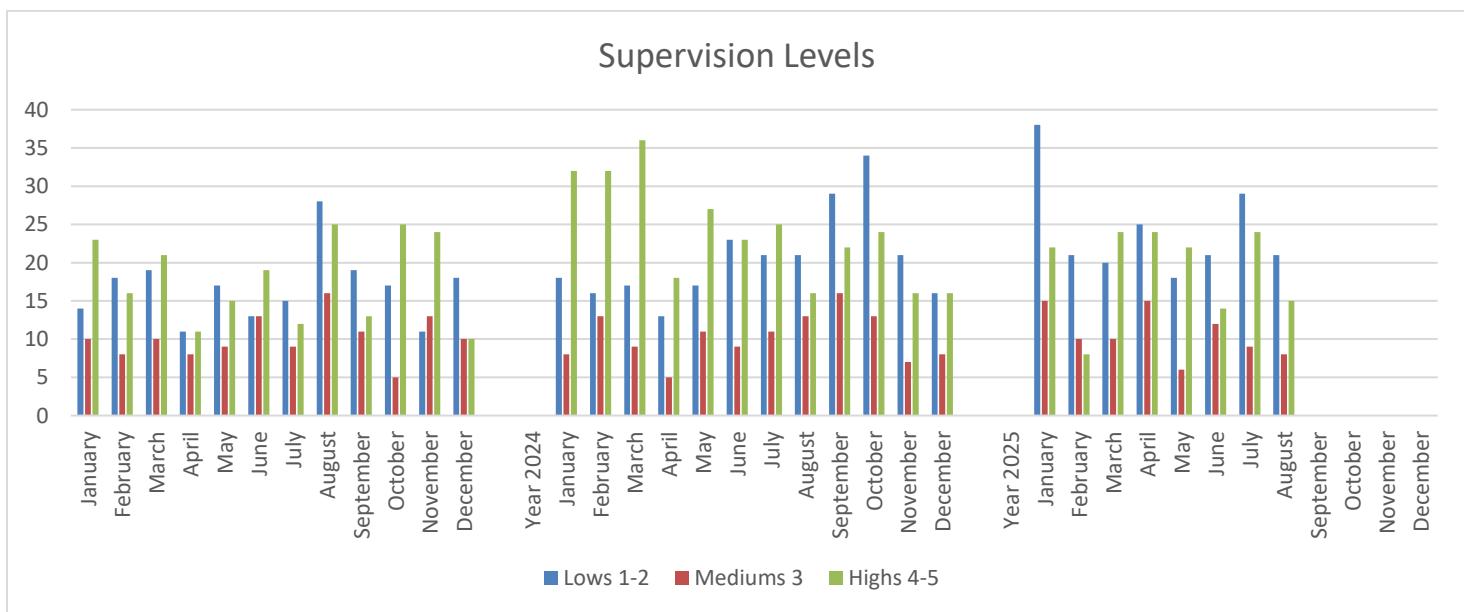
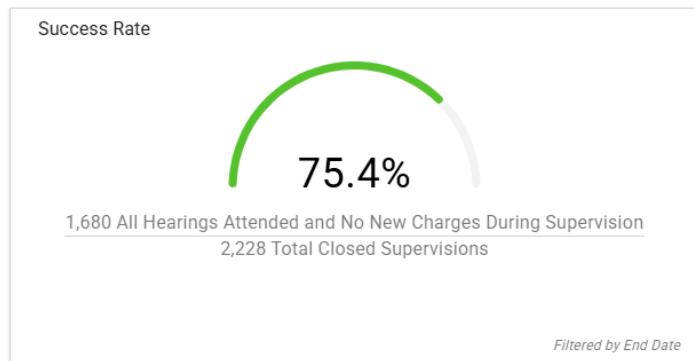
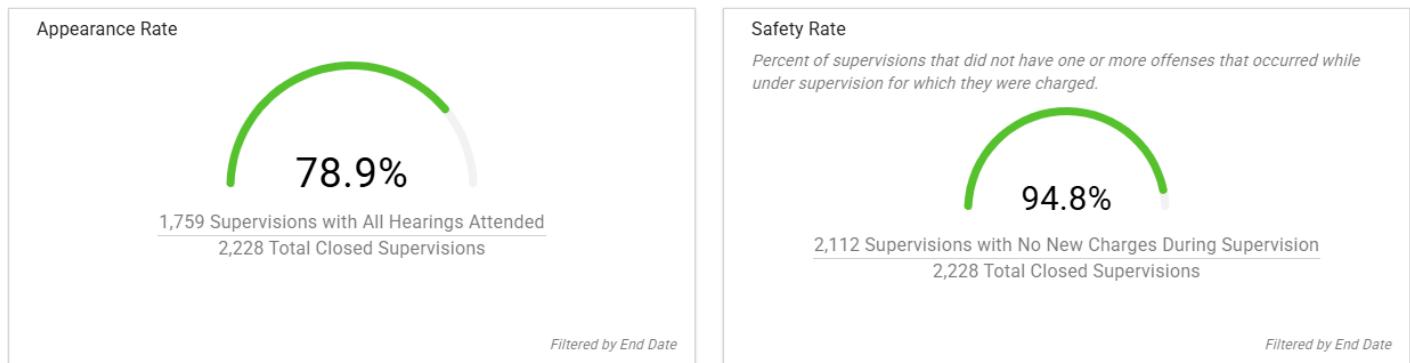
3. Addressing Funding Challenges for Enhanced Release Conditions

- **Challenge:** The lack of dedicated funds for enhanced pretrial release conditions like Electronic Monitoring (EM) ankle devices and Urinalysis (UA) testing, following the conclusion of CJCC grant monies in December 2022.
- **Current Practice:** Judges, recognizing the need for added conditions in certain cases, continue to exercise their discretion and implement EM and UA testing at the defendant's expense.
- **Status Update:** Despite the absence of funding for enhanced conditions, defendants under Pretrial Services supervision have demonstrated a high rate of compliance, even when enhanced conditions are privately funded. This suggests the core Pretrial Services program effectively supports compliance and community safety, regardless of funding source for additional conditions. Opioid Funds may be a possible solution for help with this issue.

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Pretrial: Outcome Measures



SUPERVISION LEVELS CHART: Demonstrates Judges release decisions due to providing more accurate and informative PSA information. 55 referrals averaged monthly.

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1. Legal Technician, grade 16 moved up to grade 17 due to 2025 benchmark adjustments for employees following this job classification.

The Legal Technician job description grade matches the day-to-day workload and duties. The current employee processes the fail to file cases. These are clients ordered by a Judge to Pretrial supervision before a case has been filed. Per Utah Rule 09 of Criminal Procedures, cases not filed in four (4) business days are no longer on pretrial supervision, but require monitoring and document processing in the interim. About 435 Rule 09 notifications have been sent to judicial officers as of August 2025 per this writing. These referrals have continued resulting in the needed adjustment requested to the Office Specialist duties as this position has process around eight hundred sixty-eight (868) referrals.

2. Case Manager Supervisor, grade 23. Case Manager grade 20

The Pretrial Case Manager Supervisor position recently vacant, has been filled. A selection process was completed resulting in an in-house case manager being promoted to pretrial case manager supervisor. Consequently, the vacant case manager position was posted and a new case manager was added to address the position move. With a supervisor in place and case manager position filled, we are fully staffed.

Next Year Budget Initiatives

Next steps

- **Future Budget Request:** Pretrial Services anticipates continued program growth and may request additional positions in the future, including a potential screener position.
- **Continued Focus on Effectiveness:** The department will continue to focus on maximizing its core functions, including conducting pretrial risk assessments, providing release options to judicial officers, and monitoring release conditions to ensure court appearances and public safety.

Davis County Pretrial Services is committed to enhancing the knowledge and expertise of its staff.

Therefore, ongoing training and educational opportunities are actively being pursued to further develop their understanding of best practices, evidence-based interventions, and evolving legal frameworks within pretrial services.

This dedication to professional development reflects the department's commitment to continuous improvement and providing effective and impactful services to defendants and the community.