



New Mexico Administrative
Office of the Courts

PRETRIAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

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Welcome to the NM AOC Pretrial Justice 2023 Annual Report
New Mexico... Leading the Field...

AOC Pretrial Justice Program Intro Page

Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles:

MISSION: Foster and enhance pretrial justice throughout New Mexico

VISION: New Mexico to continue to be a national leader in Pretrial Justice



L-R
RJ McBee,
Cecilia Perry,
Joseph Filerio,
Marshall Dixon,
Gilbert Jaramillo

Pretrial Justice Guiding Principles

“In our society, liberty is the norm and detention prior to trial or without trial is the carefully limited exception.” *U.S. v. Salerno*

- Presumption of innocence.
- Use of least restrictive conditions to reasonably ensure court appearance and public safety.
- Preventative Detention only when no conditions can be applied to reasonably protect public safety.

NM Pretrial Justice Implementation Goals:

- Risk and Evidence Based Decision Making
- Maximize Public Safety
- Maximize Court Appearance
- Maximize Pretrial Release



“I had the honor of working closely with the New Mexico Pretrial Leadership in 2023 and I was truly amazed at the level of excellence and collaboration. This executive leadership team is the highest functioning team at the State level that I have ever seen. Keep it going New Mexico!”

Joel Bishop, El Paso Justice Support and Community Service



Message from Arthur W. Pepin



NM Administrative Office of the Courts Director

The past year has carried forward the dynamic implementation of the Pretrial Services Program. Implementations in the Fourth and Twelfth Judicial Districts are proceeding with the Eighth and Ninth Judicial Districts on the horizon. Pretrial Services has new leadership as we look forward to planning the final stage of statewide implementation in the Fifth, Seventh, and Tenth Judicial Districts. The promotion of Kelly Bradford to be Director of the Court Services Division led to the promotion in November 2023 of Gilbert Jaramillo to be the Senior Statewide Pretrial Program Manager for Pretrial Services. Kelly and Gilbert worked tirelessly to create a sustainable statewide pretrial program. Kelly's outstanding leadership has been recognized both in New Mexico and by national organizations on numerous occasions, and she will serve as the President of the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies in 2024-2025. As the Court Services Division Director, she will support Gilbert as he directs the continuation and completion of statewide implementation with careful adherence to legal and evidence-based practices.

Pretrial Services continued to receive confirmation that its evidence-based practices are effective at improving public safety and court appearance rates. A study published in mid-2023 by the UNM Institute for Social Research and the Santa Fe Institute found that among more than 15,000 felony defendants released pretrial over a four-year period, less than 1% were arrested for a second-degree felony and less than one-tenth of 1% were arrested for a first-degree felony while on pretrial release. The study also found that, of all the criteria studied regarding recommendation of pretrial release conditions, the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) implemented in New Mexico's courts was the most accurate predictor of re-arrest during the pretrial release period.

Court data tracked by Pretrial Services in 2023 showed that in counties where pretrial services have been implemented, arrest rates for those on pretrial release declined. Data on electronic monitoring confirmed that few of these defendants are arrested for a serious crime during the period of pretrial release. AOC's implementation of real-time tracking of alerts results in swift issuance of an arrest warrant and prompt notification to law enforcement of alerts for serious violations, such as stalking a victim or removing the electronic monitoring device.

Continuing adherence to data-driven policies and practices, AOC supported the ISR's application for a grant that will allow ISR in 2024 to further study the release data, revalidate the PSA as a follow up to the initial 2021 validation study, and further exploration of about 20,000 pretrial releases to evaluate the effectiveness of current practices and recommendations for even more effective practices.

Just four years after its inception, Pretrial Services is changing the landscape of pretrial release in New Mexico. Release conditions informed by risk assessment help maximize public safety in place of the prior practice of release which conditioned release based solely on a defendant's ability to post a money bond. This Annual Report provides insight into the ways Pretrial Services is helping courts improve outcomes for public safety and court appearance. I encourage readers to review the Report and contact Pretrial Services with any questions or ideas for ways Pretrial Services can further enhance community safety during the period a defendant is awaiting adjudication of charges.

Arthur W. Pepin

Message from Kelly Bradford



Court Services Division Director NM Administrative Office of the Courts

When most hear “Pretrial” they think of supervision, but Pretrial is about a system, a complex system with many moving parts and system actors. Pretrial Justice is the period of a case that begins with law enforcement and ends with a resolution of a case. During the life of a case there are many stakeholders involved such as law enforcement, the courts, the prosecutor, the defense attorney, jail staff etc, all having important roles and responsibilities governed by the law. The Pretrial Justice Program has been working since 2019 to not only implement local pretrial supervision programs but also pretrial practices supported by law and legal and evidence practices designed to improve public safety and court appearance. This can be challenging work to shift practices, perceptions and norms.

The year 2023 was the year of further expansion to new sites, solidifying pretrial practices in existing implementation sites and the year of data! In 2023, the AOC Pretrial Justice Program made great strides in achieving a strong pretrial justice data infrastructure resulting in accurate data reporting but also possessing some of the best data in the country. With local New Mexico data in hand, we can now see the success of implementation and identify areas of further improvement. We can now tell the story of what is or is not happening to better inform local jurisdictions and state leadership.

In addition to expansions and data, over the last 12 months, the AOC Pretrial Justice Program has provided numerous trainings, rolled-out a new court date reminder system, developed a site auditing process to ensure sites are following legal and evidence based processes, standardized processes, conducted numerous sites visits across the state, operationalized a remote supervision unit to support local pretrial programs, participated in national webinars, and assisted in several national publications and conference presentations. During the Annual National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies Conference several Pretrial Program Managers from across the state were highlighted and participated in a workshop. I am amazed everyday with the amazing team of dedicated New Mexico pretrial professionals I have been lucky enough to work with and learn from. The true strength of the AOC Pretrial Justice Program are the local pretrial program managers, local stakeholder champions and AOC Pretrial Justice Team. Their commitment to the work, legal principles, creating a justice system that is fair for all and at times traveling unpaved roads is inspiring.

I encourage you to read this report and see the amazing work that has been done which shows why New Mexico is a leader in Pretrial Justice.

Kelly Bradford

Message from Gilbert Jaramillo



Message from Gilbert Jaramillo AOC Sr. Statewide Pretrial Program Manager

As we close another year, I'm looking back and thankful for the opportunity to collaborate with all of the professionals in our system that are dedicated to improving our communities in New Mexico. Our Pretrial Justice team traveled to several Counties and Courts in New Mexico in 2023 and met with Judges, Court Administration, Court Staff, and stakeholders along the way. The common theme in these meetings and a statement that we heard over and over again was, "we want to improve the system and make our communities a safer place." I am proud to work on a pretrial justice team that makes this very statement the priority every day. Over the past few years the AOC Pretrial Justice Program has used research and data to implement effective, high functioning pretrial programs and systems. Staying true to pretrial practices that are supported with evidence and follow the law have proven fruitful in every jurisdiction that has implemented with the AOC Pretrial Justice Program. Every jurisdiction that has completed the implementation process with AOC and been in operation for over a year have seen increased safety rates (% of defendants who are not rearrested during the pretrial phase of a case). This directly translates to the number of alleged crimes, or decreased number of crimes and victims, that are committed by the pretrial populations in our communities.

Over the last year we have continued our commitment to improving the pretrial justice data infrastructure and reporting. We have improved the ability to measure the impacts and also identify areas for improvement in the system. Data projects are ongoing and in the coming months, we hope to release a public facing data dashboard that will allow anyone in the community access to pretrial data and examine the impacts that pretrial justice reforms are having. Transparency is a priority for AOC Pretrial and allows for confidence in the programs and tools that are being implemented.

As the new Senior Statewide Pretrial Program Manager, I look forward to continuing the work and moving towards finalizing pretrial implementation in the state of New Mexico. I am proud of the AOC Pretrial Justice Team's accomplishments over the past year and am excited to lead the team towards future success'.

Gilbert Jaramillo

Meet the AOC Pretrial Justice Team



GILBERT JARAMILLO

*Senior Statewide Pretrial
Program Manager*



CECILIA PERRY

*Statewide Pretrial
Program Manager*



RJ MCBEE

*Statewide Background
Investigations Program Manager*



MARSHALL DIXON

*Statewide Pretrial
Program Manager*



JOSEPH FILERIO

Pretrial Data Analyst



RENEE GARCIA

*Background Investigations & Public
Safety Assessment Unit Day Shift
Supervisor*



**EDWARD "ZEKE"
SILVA**

*Background Investigations &
Public Safety Assessment Unit
Night Shift Supervisor*



**SALVADOR SUAREZ-
MARTINEZ**

*Electronic Monitoring &
Supervision Unit Supervisor*



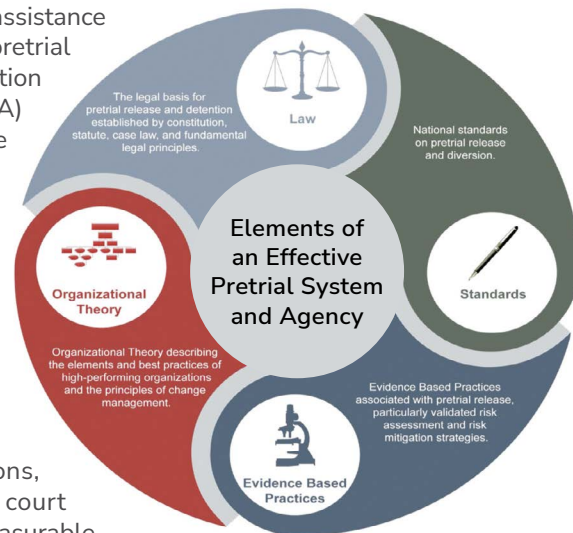
MELISSA LOVATO

*Pretrial Services Financial
Administrator*

Law, Standards and Essential Elements

The Standards-Using National Pretrial Justice Standards

The NM AOC Pretrial Justice Program has been working with the technical assistance and support of the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) to implement pretrial national standards. These standards come from the American Bar Association (ABA) and the National Association of Pretrial Service Agencies (NAPSA) known as the NAPSA Standards. The model used to implement these standards comes from the NIC: Essential Elements of a Pretrial Justice System which incorporates the NAPSA Standards as well as evidence-based practices for pretrial release decision making and Pretrial Programs and supervision.



The NM AOC Pretrial Justice Role and Function

The role of a pretrial program is to help courts make informed decisions, promote & maximize pretrial release, public safety and a defendant’s court appearance, and ensure release conditions are realistic, enforceable and measurable.

In New Mexico, the AOC Background Investigation and Public Safety Assessment Unit assesses all defendants arrested for a new offense using the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) and completes a Background Investigation Report (BIR). The PSA and BIR are provided to judges prior to the defendant’s initial release hearing. The PSA measures a defendant’s likelihood of future court appearance and no new arrests during the pretrial phase of a case. Judges use this information, as well as other information, to determine release and conditions to best support pretrial success. Pretrial supervision can be a condition of release. This supervision is provided on the local level by Pretrial Programs using evidence-based pretrial supervision practices designed to promote pretrial success. As of the end of 2023, the AOC NM Pretrial Justice Program has launched legal and evidence based pretrial justice programs in 16 counties.

Assess

- Background investigation - Criminal history check
- Validated Risk Assessment - Public Safety Assessment
- Recommendations

Integrate

- Connections/Referrals to community services

Promote

- Supervision
- Monitoring
- Support

Measure

- Metrics
- Satisfaction
- Feedback



“New Mexico AOC’s Pretrial Initiative is an innovative effort to adopt effective pretrial improvements statewide, enhance community safety and well-being, and uphold constitutional principles. Its focus on implementing supportive pretrial services programs and pretrial assessments with fidelity to best practices while holding itself accountable through robust and transparent data collection makes New Mexico a leader in advancing pretrial justice.”

Tanya Anderson, Associate Director, Center for Effective Public Policy



Connecting the Dots!

Statewide Infrastructure

The AOC Pretrial Justice Program developed a statewide operational infrastructure to successfully implement the NIC Essential Elements which include: Assessment, Supervision and Measurement.



“A major focus nationally over the past decade has been bail practices that are both fair to justice-involved individuals but effective for justice system integrity and public safety. New Mexico consistently has been ahead of the curve here. By creating nonfinancial release options, the state has reduced the inequities in bail setting caused by money bail. At the same time, its bail laws provide a due process enhanced method to detain those individuals who pose a true threat to public safety. The result is a system that respects the individual’s right to least restrictive nonfinancial pretrial release while helping to assure the public’s expectation for safety. Those involved in New Mexico’s bail reform should take pride in developing what should be model pretrial practices for America’s justice systems”



Spurgeon Kennedy - Vice President at Crime and Justice Institute, NAPSA President

How it all Works!

Assess

AOC Background Investigations and Public Safety Assessment (BI/PSA) Unit

- Completes Background Investigation Report and PSA for all sites.
- Operational 22/7, located in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Supervise / Support

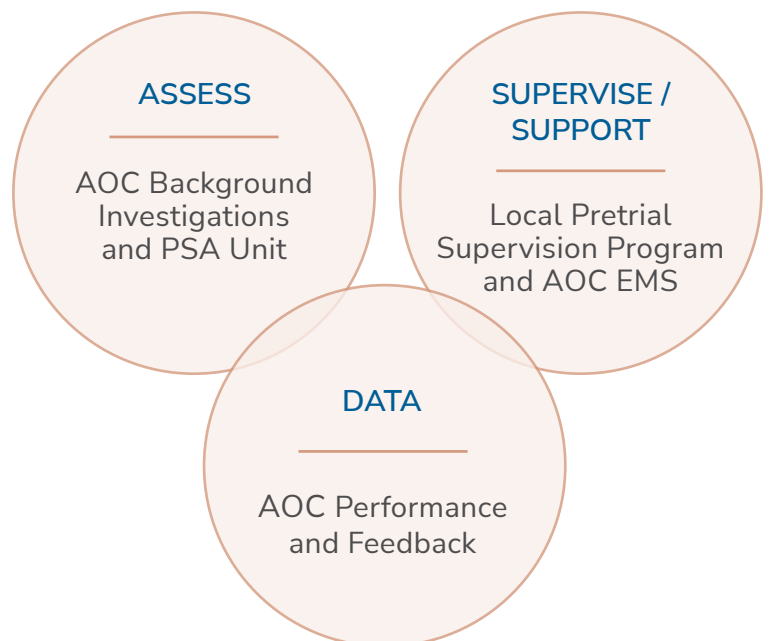
Local Pretrial Supervision and Support

- The Local Pretrial Program provides risk-based supervision and support.
- Electronic Monitoring and Supervision (EMS) Unit - After Hours AOC Unit housed in Albuquerque, provides after-hours GPS monitoring support to local pretrial programs.
- Remote Supervision support- Provides support and supervision to local pretrial programs.

Data

Data Collection, analysis and performance outcomes.

- Using national pretrial justice data standards, provide measurement and performance feedback.

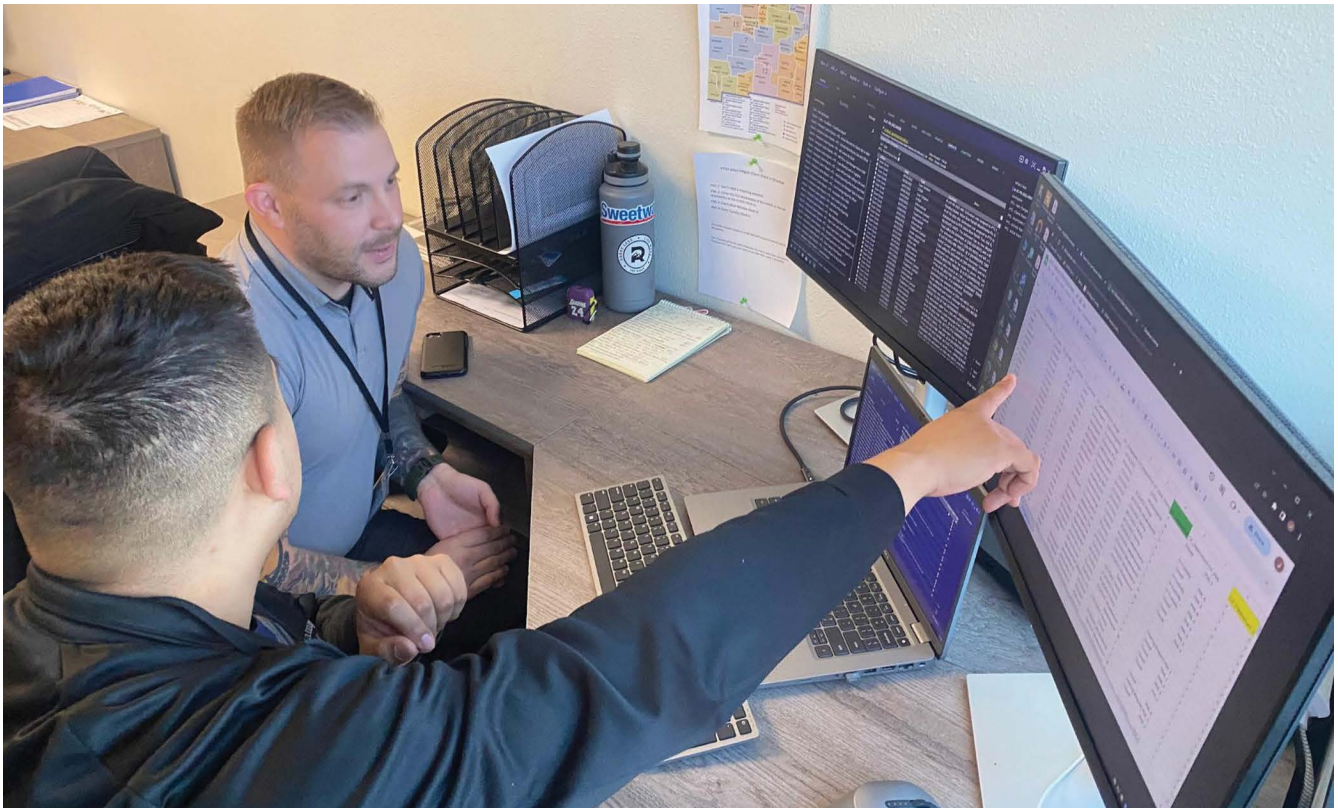


Pretrial Remote Supervision Unit

AOC Pretrial Remote Supervision Unit

Established May 2023

With expansion of pretrial practices and programs across the state, the need for additional supervision support was recognized. The AOC Pretrial Justice Program created a remote supervision unit in May of 2023 with the hiring of two Pretrial Officers to work out of a centralized location. Unit began providing remote supervision support to the 4th JD in June. The Pretrial Remote Supervision Unit (RSU) was able to begin completing case initiations, intakes and carry a caseload for the district to allow time for local hiring and training of Officers.



Once the new officers from the local program are hired and trained, the remote Officers complete a warm hand off to continue monitoring and supervision. This allows the RSU to be available for new counties in the beginning stages of program utilization or existing programs in need of additional staff support.



Jesus Holguin,
PTS Officer I



Joseph Benson,
PTS Officer II

In order to better achieve and support supervision compliance and community safety, the Officers have been trained and given access to NCIC to identify any outstanding warrants nationwide and provide that information to the local programs for further review and action. RSU is scheduled to provide this service to local jurisdictions in January 2024.

AOC Background Investigations & Public Safety Assessment Unit

The AOC BI/PSA Unit launched in the spring of 2020, originally servicing its two pilot jurisdictions in Sandoval and San Juan counties with six employees. Today, the unit has grown to twenty six employees serving 16 counties.



Top row left to right: Marino Valdez, Michele Duran, Renee Garcia, Edward “Zeke” Silva, Brianna Chavez, Edgar Sanchez

Middle row left to right: Sarah Nazorek, Matthew Chavez, Alichia Chavez, Mary Imperial, Kevin Baca, Marcus Thrush, Tara Bond

Bottom row: Liz Fox, Crystal Hernandez, Veronica Sanchez, Isaiah Perales, Alison Guevara, Pauline Galloway, Melinda Cline-Hodges

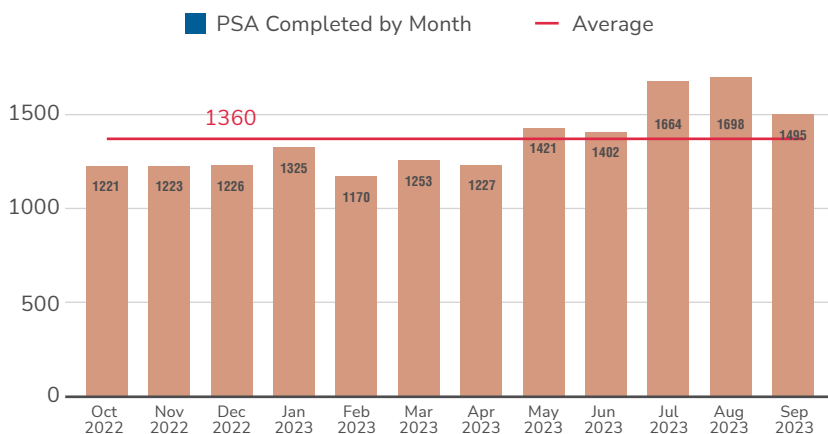


“Being part of our state’s centralized background investigations unit has been an incredible journey towards advancing the cause of New Mexico’s criminal justice system. Through the meticulous work and dedication of our team, we’re shaping a more transparent, fair, and effective judicial system one background investigation report at a time”.

Edward “Zeke” Silva - BI/PSA Unit Night Shift Supervisor



Number of Public Safety Assessments Completed by Month (N=16,325)



The BI/PSA Unit continues to support the courts and find ways to support them. The Unit is working with a jurisdiction to pilot providing BIR’s and PSA’s for warrant surrenders. If successful, the initiative will be expanded to all existing sites.

From October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023, the AOC BI/PSA Unit completed 16,325 Public Safety Assessments and Background Investigation Reports. The average monthly number of BIR’s and PSA’s was 1,360.

AOC Electronic Monitoring and Supervision Unit

The Electronic Monitoring and Supervision (EMS) Unit began operations in October, 2021. This centralized unit provides after hours support to local courts using electronic monitoring throughout the state. They provide rapid response to potential electronic monitoring violations with the ability to request warrants should the need arise. This year, the EMS Unit expanded to the 4th and 6th Judicial Districts and into Rio Arriba and Los Alamos counties in the 1st Judicial District.



EMS Unit Graveyard Shift: Michael Abeyta, Amanda Beauchamp, Daniel Orejel-Tovanche

Not pictured: Leadworker Oscar Garcia



EMS Unit Swing Shift: Claudia Cabrera, Leadworker Alcia Vigil, Julia Herrera, Claudia Rodriguez-Nunez, Supervisor Salvador Suarez-Martinez;

Not pictured: Carmen Garcia, Nicholas Sanders, Leadworker Charmayne Willie



“With over two years in service, the EMS Unit strives for excellence. Being part of a hardworking and resilient team is fantastic. The EMS Unit staff takes pride in their work as it provides an excellent service to all the jurisdictions it supervises. One could not be more proud of how the Unit continues to carry out its mission as it expands throughout New Mexico. Maintaining Public Safety is the goal as we continue to work alongside Judicial Partners.”

*Salvador Suarez Martinez,
EMS Supervisor*



The EMS Unit has not only expanded to new sites, but also expanded staffing to service new sites. The Unit began with a staff of five and now has a total of twelve highly trained staff consisting of EMS Officers, Leadworkers, and a Supervisor, all working the hours most people are sleeping. Staffing will continue to grow this year in anticipation of full implementation throughout the state to sixteen, adding one more Leadworker and three more EMS Officers. From October 2022 through September 2023, the EMS Unit has investigated approximately 131,000 alerts resulting in 112 bench warrant requests. In addition to investigating alerts, the Unit assists with critical data entry to ensure pretrial justice data collection is complete and accurate for future analysis.

1st Judicial District

Santa Fe, Los Alamos, and Rio Arriba Counties

Launched September, 2022; Expanded May, 2023

Mission: Maximizing release, court appearance and public safety through evidence-based practices and appropriate pretrial supervision/monitoring.

Santa Fe County

Originally launched in Santa Fe County, the 1st Judicial District worked to enhance their existing program and also expanded to Los Alamos and Rio Arriba Counties in 2023. The stakeholders committed to working on areas of their system based on NIC's Essential Elements and national best practices and continue to work on improving their legal system.



“Our Pretrial Services team and the AOC thoughtfully balanced public safety, due process rights, and the needs and resources of each county in our district. They crafted a program that works at both the judicial and individual levels and it is impressive to see them use experiences in our district to continuously improve it.”

Chief Judge Bryan Biedscheid



Highlights:

Santa Fe County has piloted a public transportation program, issuing bus passes to defendants to assist in supporting connections to services and pretrial reporting. Relationships and resources with stakeholders are being leveraged to identify and solve problems related to initial engagement with the pretrial supervision program.

Left to right in the photos: Joe Marquez, Pretrial Services Officer I; Felix Sena, Pretrial Services Leadworker; Michael Sisneros, Pretrial Services Officer II; Bryan Vigil, Judicial Specialist; Michael Roybal, Pretrial Services Officer I;
Not pictured: Jon Fischer, Program Manager

Los Alamos County

Los Alamos County launched their Pretrial Supervision Program in May 2023. Los Alamos is utilizing a local resource to provide case management services to defendants ordered to Pretrial supervision. The case manager is also assisting with coordination of intake and office visits with the Pretrial program. This resource allows for enhanced service integration and the ability to address the needs of individuals involved in the criminal justice system.

Los Alamos Stakeholders

- Chief Judge **Bryan Biedsheid**
- Magistrate Judge **Catherine Taylor**
- District Attorney **Mary Carmack-Altwhies**
- Assistant District Attorney **Elizabeth Counce**
- Assistant District Attorney **Douglas Wood**
- First Judicial District Court Executive Officer III **Kathleen Vigil**
- Attorney (First Judicial District Court) **Kateri Eisenberg**
- Court Manager **Crystal Sanchez**
- Deputy Chief (Los Alamos Police Department) **Oliver Morris**
- Sergeant (Los Alamos Police Department) **Benjamin Irving**
- Detective (Los Alamos Police Department) **Michael Weiss**
- Detention Administrator (Los Alamos county Detention Center) **Hilario Salinas**
- Sergeant (Los Alamos County Detention Center) **Erika Bustos**
- Probation Officer (Los Alamos Municipal Court) **Monica Schweiner**



Rio Arriba County

Rio Arriba County also went live in May 2023. The County has applied for grant money to assist this rural community with peer support services. Once a peer support worker is hired, that person will assist pretrial defendants in connecting with services and navigating the judicial process. Peer support workers can promote success and improve outcomes for criminal justice involved individuals.

Rio Arriba Stakeholders

- Chief Judge **Bryan Biedsheid**
- District Court Judge **Jason Lidyard**
- Magistrate Court Judge **Alexandra Naranjo**
- Magistrate Court Judge **Joseph Madrid**
- First Judicial District Court Executive Officer III **Kathleen Vigil**
- Attorney (First Judicial District Court) **Kateri Eisenberg**
- Court Manager (Rio Arriba Magistrate Court) **Melissa Lujan**
- Judicial Specialist II (Rio Arriba Magistrate Court) **Roberta Morfin**
- District Attorney **Mary Carmack-Altwhies**
- Assistant District Attorney **Norman Wheeler**
- Assistant District Attorney **Douglas Wood**
- Chief District Defender **Julie Ball**
- Public Defender **Meredith Cookman**
- Police Chief (Española Police Department) **Mizel Garcia**
- Rio Arriba County Sheriff **Billy Merrifield**
- Sergeant (Rio Arriba County Sheriff's Office) **Craig Yazzie**
- Lieutenant (New Mexico State Police) **Dominic Casados**
- Detention Administrator (Rio Arriba County Detention Center) **Jose L. Gallegos**



The Pretrial program has continued to expand with the continued implementation. The Court has added a Leadworker and Judicial Specialist to the program to handle the increased work and to provide further leadership and opportunities for current staff.

3rd Judicial District Highlights

Doña Ana County

Launched June 2021

Mission: To uphold pretrial justice while maximizing release, court appearance, and public safety through risk-based decision-making.

Early Delegated Release (EDR) was implemented in partnership with the 3rd Judicial District (3rd JD), Law Offices of the Public Defender (LOPD), District Attorney's Office, and the Doña Ana County Detention Center. From May 31 to November 15, 2023, a total of 95 defendants were released from custody, prior to a first appearance. This strategy for success matches legal and evidence based practices of reducing the amount of time a defendant is detained (maximizing release), for those defendants who are considered low-risk, and charged with low-level crimes.

The 3rd JD has worked diligently to develop relationships with the LOPD, and the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope (MVCOH), who work to serve the homeless and near homeless populations. With these collaborations, the Pretrial Program is able to make attempts to obtain any additional available contact information and/or reach a defendant through the LOPD or MVCOH. This provides an opportunity to gain compliance with reporting and provide Court Hearing reminders. LOPD will provide Pretrial Services with available contact information as well as advise if the defendant has applied for services in their case(s) ordered to Pretrial. MVCOH will collect messages from Pretrial staff for their "message board" for defendants receiving their services have access to, and/or forward a message to Case Workers assigned to the defendant.

One of the key distinctions between the 3rd Judicial District, and the other pretrial programs across the state, is that they have maintained non utilization of drug testing following a "less is more" approach. This allows for defendants to have better engagement with the program without the threat of being re-incarcerated due to addiction. It also allows for the program to have meaningful interventions and provide access to necessary resources. It should be emphasized that, in comparing recent outcome data between the 3rd Judicial District's program and all other pretrial programs across the state, there were no deviations from success and outcomes rates; indicating that the absence of drug testing from the program has not had a negative effect on outcomes.



"Good morning, my name is Patrick, I wanted to take a moment to review my experience with the Pretrial Services Division of the 3rd Judicial District Court. Lane Sheram was my agent, and he was truly a blessing to me. I was incredibly nervous about the process and what the interactions would be like, but Lane has always been professional, courteous, and kind. He has been thorough in his review of the maintenance of the conditions I am required to meet and has made sure that I was aware of court settings and that I was regularly speaking to my attorney. I am grateful to Lane, to the kind and professional office staff, including Ashley who most often answered the phone, and to the Pretrial Services Division for their assistance, professionalism, and courtesy despite the circumstances of our interactions. Have a nice day, and a nice weekend. Thank you."



Pictured left to right: Elizabeth Saavedra, PTS Judicial Specialist 2; Vanessa Valles, PTS Officer Leadworker; Ashley Barreras, PTS Officer 1; Samantha Woodward, Program Manager; Cristal Ramirez, PTS Officer 1; Lane Sheram, PTS Officer 1

4th Judicial District

San Miguel and Mora Counties

Launched June, 2023. Guadalupe County scheduled early 2024

Mission: Promote Pretrial Justice, Public Safety, Court Appearance and Release.

The Fourth Judicial District (4th JD) began collaborating with the AOC Pretrial Justice Program to implement a pretrial program utilizing nationally supported legal and evidence based practices in December of 2022. During this time, the counties of San Miguel and Mora experienced the largest and most destructive wildfires in the history of the State. This was followed by flooding that caused significant damage within the district. For approximately four months, the community was facing an uncertain future. Nonetheless, the 4th Judicial District continued to serve the public which included working toward implementing a Pretrial Supervision Program. Development of the program faced challenges such as recruiting for pretrial positions, and dealing with the significant distance between courts within the jurisdiction.



In an effort to assist the 4th JD with staffing, an innovative idea was developed by the AOC. In May of 2023, the Remote Supervision Unit (RSU) was established with the hiring of two remote pretrial officers. These officers, in collaboration with the local Pretrial Program Supervisor, provided support to 4th JD allowing them to launch their program in San Miguel and Mora County in June 2023. As a combined team, the program hit the ground running were successful in filling the local pretrial position allowing the AOC RSU to transition cases to the local program in October of 2023.

Despite the barriers and challenges for the District, pretrial implementation was successful. With the support and collaborative efforts of Judges, court staff, detention center, District Attorney's Office, Defense Counsel, and law enforcement, the 4th Judicial District now has the pretrial tools and resources that did not previously exist.

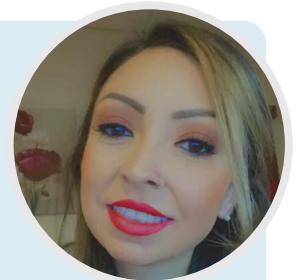


"I would like to extend a special thanks to everyone locally who has supported our efforts, our judges, clerks, court managers, attorneys, city council, detention center staff, and law enforcement. Our local Pretrial Officers have gone above and beyond to learn from our mistakes and adapt to changes. They are dedicated to ensuring client success, which is a priority of daily operations. A program and project like this takes a community of support, knowledge, and patience. As with daily obstacles, nothing good comes easy, nor do we gain experience without practice. As a team we will continue to learn, develop, and grow a successful Pretrial Program that will serve the citizens of San Miguel, Mora, and Guadalupe counties for many years to come!"

Stephanie Romero, Pretrial Supervisor

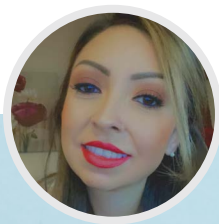
"I am very proud of the work that our Supervisor and Pretrial Officers have done in getting our program up and running. We believe that the growing pains in setting up this program will result in policies and procedures that will assist other districts in setting up their pretrial services programs."

District Court Chief Judge Flora Gallegos



Fourth District Stakeholder Team

Hon. Flora Gallegos	Chief District Judge
Hon. Michael Aragon	Division 1 District Judge
Hon. Abigail Aragon	Division 2 District Judge
Vidal Martinez	Chief Executive Officer
Angela Martinez	District Court Manager
Hon. Christian Montano	Magistrate Judge - San Miguel County
Hon. Phillip Ledger	Magistrate Judge - San Miguel County
Darlene Romo-Baca	Magistrate Court Manager - San Miguel County
Hon. Christopher Baca	Magistrate Judge - Guadalupe County
Hon. Cindy Garza	Magistrate Judge - Mora County
Antonio Padilla	Warden - San Miguel County Detention Center
Steven Garcia	Deputy Warden - San Miguel County Detention Center
Thomas Clayton	Chief District Attorney
Janet Padilla	Deputy Chief District Attorney
Ozy Adams	Deputy District Attorney - Guadalupe County
Anna Aragon	Private Defense Attorney
Chico Gallegos	Private Defense Attorney
Brett Phelps	Private Defense Attorney
Amara Aaron	Contracted - Public Defender
Tomas Benavidez	Contracted - Public Defender
David Silva	Contracted - Public Defender
Ben Mondragon	Contracted - Public Defender
Lorenzo Mata	Guadalupe County Sheriff
Antonio Salazar	Las Vegas Police Chief
Elias Rael	Las Vegas Police - Field Operations Commander
Americk Padilla	Mora County Sheriff
Victor Villa	New Mexico State Police - District 2 Captain
Clarence Romero	New Mexico Highlands Police Chief
Chris Lopez	San Miguel County Sheriff



STEPHANIE ROMERO
Pretrial Program Supervisor



AMOR GALLEGOS
Pretrial Services Officer



JOSEPH GUTIERREZ
Pretrial Services Officer

6th Judicial District Highlights

Grant, Luna, and Hidalgo Counties

Launched June 2021

Mission: To promote pretrial justice and enhance community safety and court appearance



**CORINA
CASTILLO**

*Pretrial Program
Manager*



**GRISDELA
MILO**

PTS Officer



**RUBEN
CHAVIRA**

PTS Officer



**MELISSA
SANDOVAL**

PTS Officer

The 6th Judicial District has been providing pretrial services to their community since June 2021. During that time, they have continued to use legal and evidence based practices. In doing so, they have been able to increase their public safety rates. From FY 2022 through FY 2023 they were able to increase their public safety rate by 7%. They continue to grow their program, with the addition of one new Pretrial Services Officer, Melissa Sandoval, who was on-boarded in August of 2023. During January 1, 2023, and November 30, 2023, 709 defendants were supervised by the Pretrial Program. Additionally, the 6th Judicial District began to utilize the AOC's EMS Unit, which monitors GPS after-hours, on September 29, 2023.



11th Judicial District Highlights

McKinley and San Juan Counties



McKinley County Pretrial Program-Left to right: Mariah Murphy-Watchman Pretrial Services Officer, Nikki Dare Pretrial Program Manager, Lasha Peyketewa Pretrial Services Officer, Yosha Lee Program Specialist.

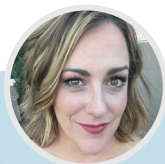
McKinley County Pretrial Program:

McKinley County has been providing pretrial services to their community since the Spring of 2021. The program has worked to support the county in securing a grant to assist in an upgrade to their local detention center's jail management system. The upgrade will allow pretrial to receive daily automated booking and release information eliminating the current practice of using hand written logging. They have also applied for the Rural Pretrial Justice Fellowship through APPR. If selected, this opportunity will help address some of the rural barriers faced in McKinley County such as: lack of resources, transportation, phone, and internet issues, and boost stakeholder engagement.

San Juan County Pretrial Program:

Working in the field has a significant impact on those who are justice involved, but also the Pretrial Officer who provides the supervision. The Officer's are trained and skilled in building a rapport with their clients to gain trust and assist them in successfully completing the pretrial phase of their case. Working with justice involved individuals can present many challenges and impact the well being of pretrial staff. Since their launch in February of 2020, San Juan County has implemented a "Wellness At Work" committee which includes four subcommittees, one of which is the **Employee Crisis Team**. This team of Court Programs staff members are certified in mental health first aid. These employees volunteer to be an emergency contact for any employee who may be having a crisis, such as the passing of a defendant. This specialized team created a Google Spaces chat to allow any employee to reach out for assistance and have an available member of the team respond and meet in person or over Google Meets with the employee in crisis. This program has served as a great resource to pretrial staff who can be impacted by the population they serve.

Both counties have also become Narcan distribution sites and are able to provide Narcan to defendants and family members with opioid use concerns. The programs in both counties also recognized a need for transportation services and secured a grant to provide transportation services to and from court, pretrial check ins, and competency evaluations. They have also collaborated with CHES Health to provide a free app to assist those with substance use and mental health challenges. The app provides 24/7 direct access to peer support as well as crisis situations support.



MALLORIE GODOY
Pretrial Services
Program Manager



SUSAN GURULE
Pretrial Services
Officer Leadworker



BREE LEE
Pretrial Services
Officer I



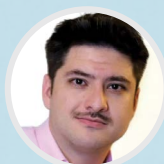
REBA FRANSSICO
Pretrial Services
Officer I



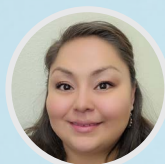
**ZULEMA
HERNANDEZ**
Pretrial Services
Officer Leadworker



JEFF LIESSE
Pretrial Services
Officer I



**ALEXANDER
GONZALES**
Pretrial Program
Project Specialist



TELECIA CROCKETT
Pretrial Services
Officer I



HALIE TSO
Pretrial Services
Officer I

13th Judicial District Highlights

Cibola, Sandoval, and Valencia Counties

Launched Sandoval: July 2020, Cibola and Valencia: May 2022

Mission: Our Pre-Trial Program provides evidence-based assessment, supervision, and reporting of justice involved community members.



FLORENE ABAD
Cibola County PTS Officer



**JULIANNA WIGGINS
& BRENDA BRECEDA**
Sandoval County PTS Officers



**BRENDA PERALES
& JOSEPH SENA**
Valencia County PTS Officers



Valencia and Cibola Counties have seen several successes in the first 18 months of implementation. No new violent activity rates were amongst the highest in the state for FY23.

Programs have had a direct impact on reducing violent crime in the 13th Judicial District. During the time period of January 1, 2023, through November 30, 2023, the Pretrial Program supervised a total of 1,226 defendants in all three counties.

Sandoval County, within the 13th Judicial District, was the first site in the state to pilot the Early Delegated Release (EDR) program in December 2021. During FY 23, the county has had 172 defendants released EDR by the AOC BIU/PSA Unit. EDR has also been implemented in San Juan and Dona Ana counties, with more counties to be brought online soon.

New Mexico Pretrial Executives Network (NM PEN)

Established 2019

Mission: Enhance and Improve implementation of statewide pretrial legal and evidence-based practices.

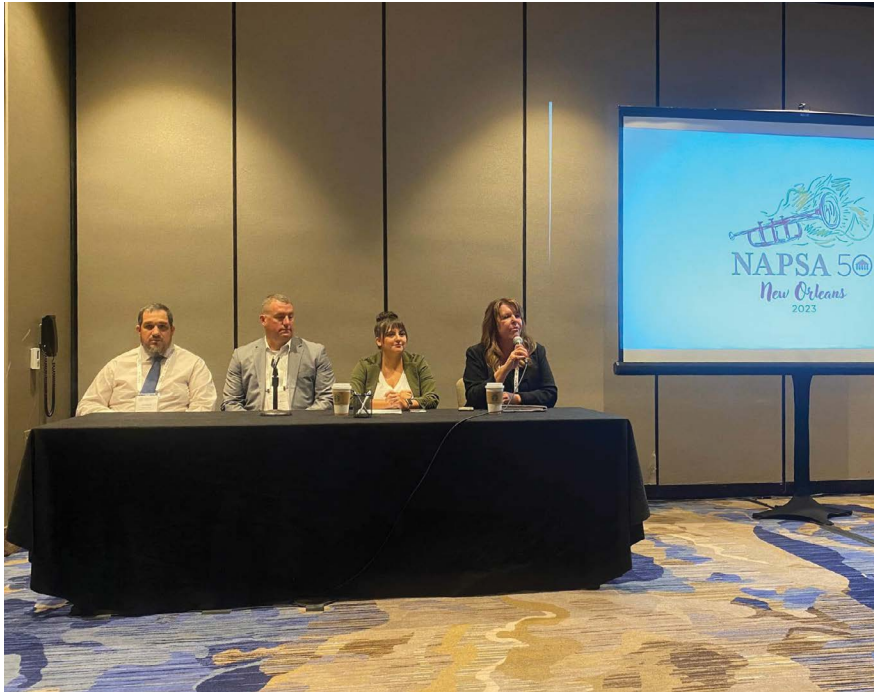
The New Mexico PEN was created to provide a network of practitioners within the state, to provide a space that would allow for collaborative opportunities, feedback, and discussion of individual and standardized practices that follow both legal framework and evidence. The PEN has been convening remotely since 2019, and began with seven members. To date the PEN comprises approximately 20 members. It continues to grow as statewide implementation of pretrial best practices continue. In June of 2023, the PEN held its first three day in-person retreat. This allowed for team building and discussion, as well as an opportunity to self reflect and gain tools in dealing with various aspects of the work the members take on on a daily basis.



“It was an honor to be part of the first in-person New Mexico PEN retreat. Every member of this network is deeply committed to serving their community and contributing to fair, effective, and equitable pretrial justice. It is an inspiring team of professionals who bring experience, skills, and dedication to New Mexico.”

Holly Ziemer, Director of Communications for Advancing Pretrial Policy and Research at the Center for Effective Public Policy





“At the PEN network retreat the members of the executives were courageous in doing the challenging work that so many leaders fail to do. They worked on their own personal growth and development as leaders. Growing one’s personal capacity for complexity is essential to working effectively with the complexity of implementing legal and evidence-based pretrial with fidelity.”

Tom O’Connor, Ph.D.,
CEO., Transforming Corrections



As a result of the amazing work and dedication of the NM PEN at the retreat, the PEN was selected to present a two-part session at the 2023 National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies Conference held in New Orleans, LA. The NM PEN presented on, “Building a High Functioning Statewide Team” and consisted of several of the members providing their first-hand experience in being a part of the state’s network.



“I am very grateful to have participated in the New Mexico PEN retreat. I have been a pretrial practitioner for 25 years, and I have been fortunate and humbled to have been part of many innovative and exciting efforts across the country to move pretrial justice forward. However, every now and then I am part of a transformative experience that impacts my perspective and my own dedication to the field. The New Mexico PEN retreat was exactly that. I am confident New Mexico pretrial leaders who attended the retreat realize they have the commitment to legal and evidence-based practice and the skills to be national leaders in pretrial justice.”

Domingo Corona, *Director of Pretrial Services, Arizona Superior Court*



AOC Robust Messaging

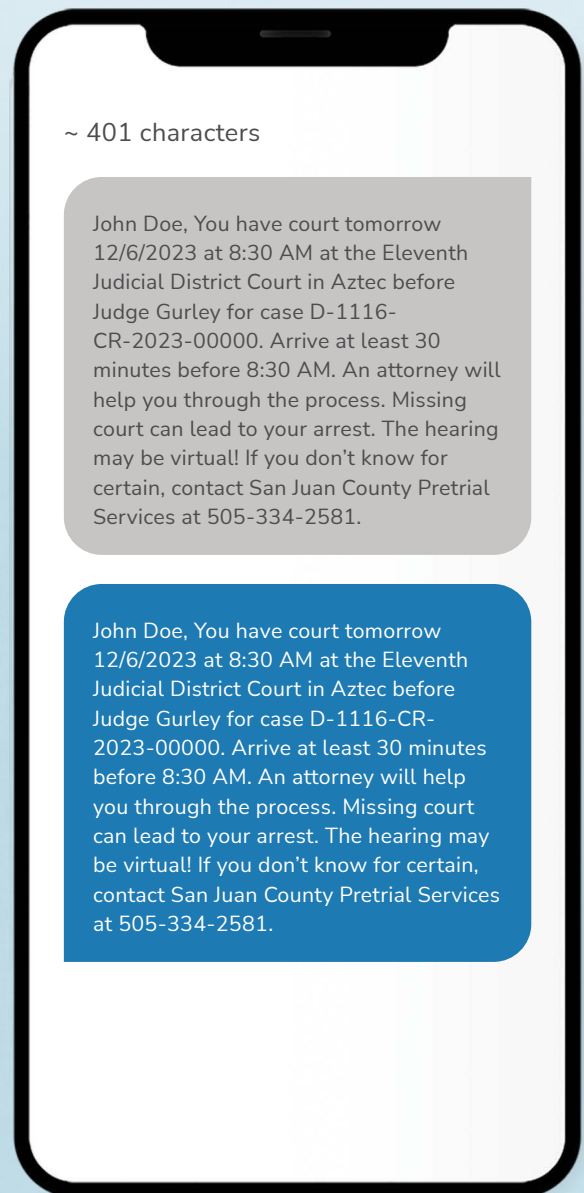
Statewide text court date reminders were developed between the AOC Pretrial Justice Program and Judiciary Information Division (JID) as a legal and evidence-based best practice. As Pretrial programs throughout the state were developed, a more robust messaging system was needed to improve court appearance and program engagement.

The AOC partnered with eCourtDate, LLC in 2023 to fulfill the needs of programs statewide. The system launched November 6, 2023, and successfully delivered 16,116 messages in the first month.

The court notification system allows for notices to defendants 7 days, 3 days, and 1 day, before their scheduled court date. Further advancements allow for messaging and reminders to defendants the day before office visits and remote check-ins. Defendants are also notified if their court date is canceled. If the defendant fails to appear, they will receive a message to contact their attorney and the Pretrial Program to get back into compliance and potentially avoid issuance of an arrest warrant. Program Managers are also able to notify defendants of court closures and delays and provide instructions for future contact. All messages provide information to increase engagement and compliance with court orders and required appearance in hearings.

Data is shared between the AOC and eCourtDate to measure the effectiveness of the system in improving court appearance and compliance with pretrial reporting requirements.

Future strategies for development will allow for messaging in the top 10 languages (currently only Spanish and English) for the State of New Mexico as well as providing links for remote reporting and remote court appearances.



Data Enhancements Are In Progress...

Over the last several years, major efforts to improve data quality and accessibility have been undertaken. With assistance from the Judicial Information Division (JID) and local criminal justice partners, the infrastructure of *NM DataXchange* continues to be constructed. By the beginning of the 2024 calendar year, the development of a public website is anticipated. This will allow access to local pretrial program management, staff, stakeholders, and the public, to access data via visualizations. The website will reduce the amount of time it takes to access data, as it will be available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, with up-to-date information.



“In partnering with JID and other stakeholders, we continue the laborious process of integrating data, so data is no longer siloed. As more entities supply data into DataXchange, the greater the ability to make data driven decisions for not only the courts, but all Criminal Justice entities across the State.”

Joseph W. Filerio, AOC Pretrial Data Analyst

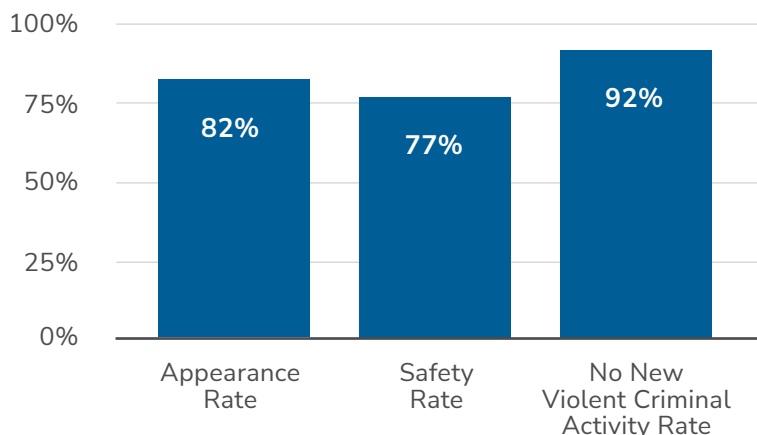


What's the current status...

In fiscal year 2023, 15,220 cases had a Public Safety Assessment (PSA) completed. Outcomes were produced for these cases that also reached a disposition and had a verified released the following districts and counties now have enough data to analyze and were included in the data sample:

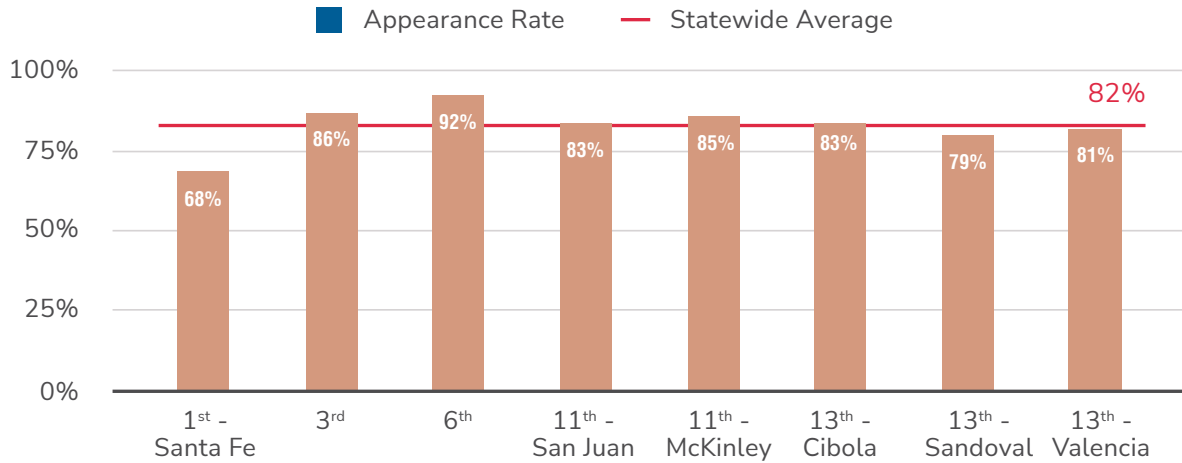
- **1st Judicial District**
 - Santa Fe County
- **3rd Judicial District**
 - Doña Ana County
- **6th Judicial District**
 - Grant County
 - Hidalgo County
 - Luna County
- **11th Judicial District**
 - McKinley County
 - San Juan County
- **13th Judicial District**
 - Cibola County
 - Sandoval County
 - Valencia County

AOC PTS Statewide Sites Outcomes (N=9,079)

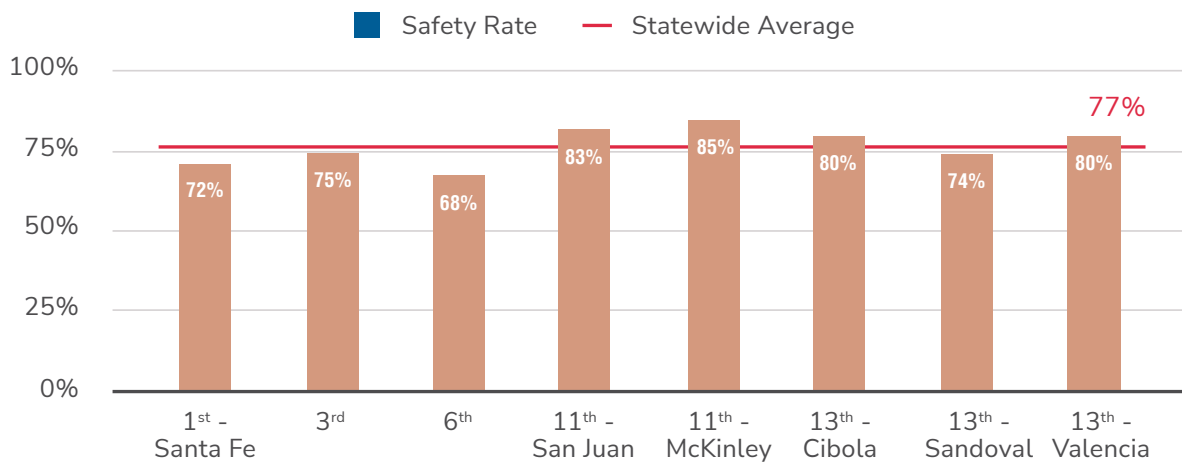


With a statewide appearance rate of 82%, a safety rate of 77%, and a 92% rate of no new violent criminal activity, the data is telling us that the majority of defendants are successful pretrial. AOC Pretrial Justice Program also continues to analyze cases in which the defendant failed and strategize to promote success and improve overall outcomes.

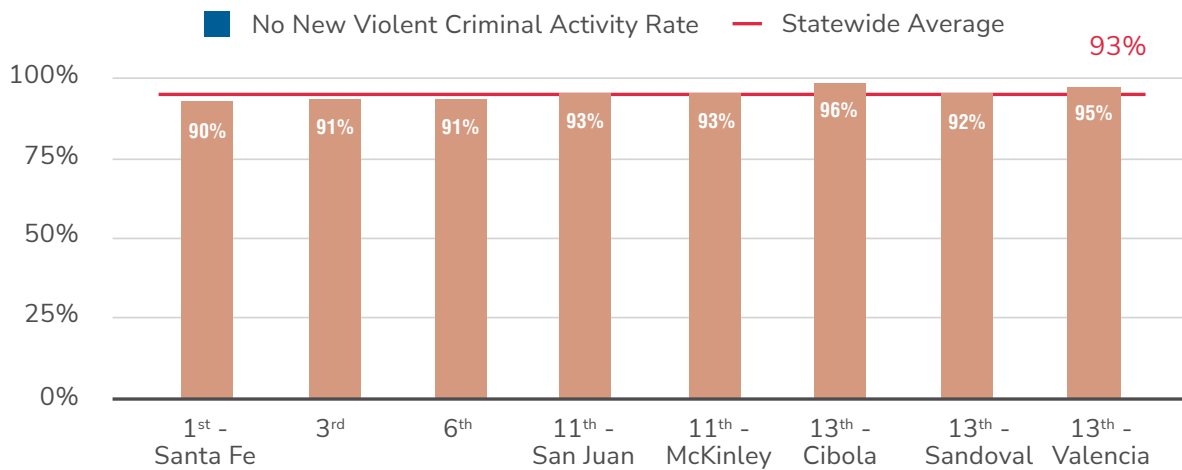
Appearance Rates by District FY23



Safety Rates by District FY23



No New Violent Criminal Activity Rates by District FY23

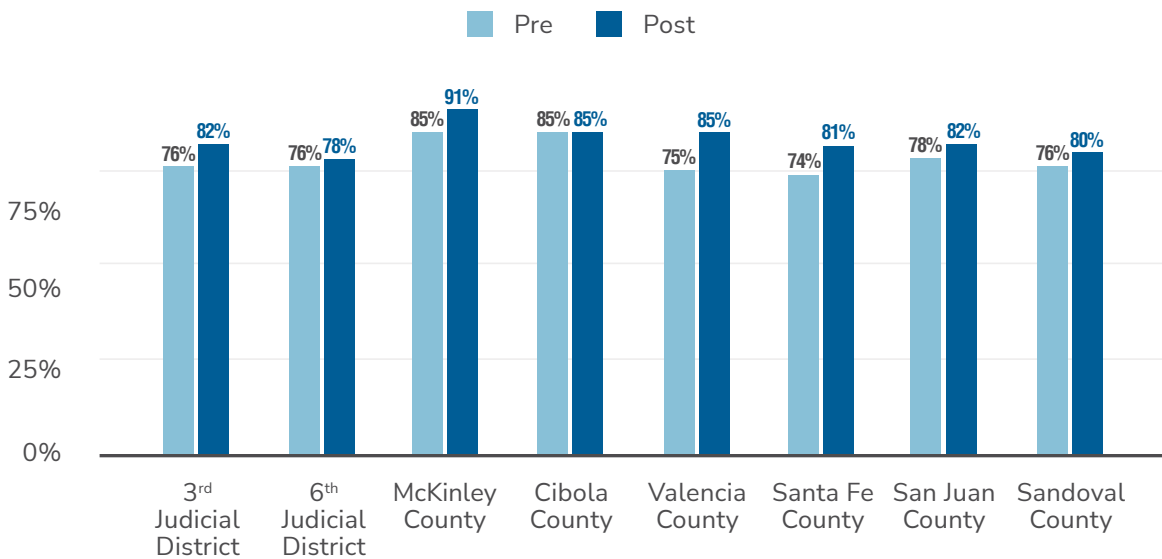


Improving Public Safety in New Mexico

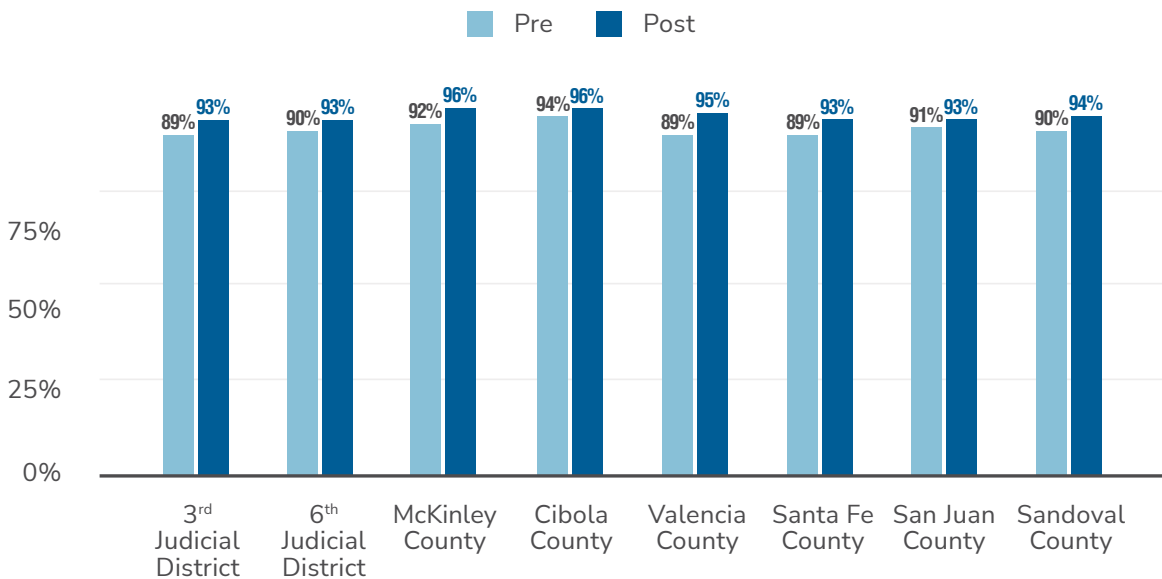
Pre and Post Implementation Outcomes

Data from each of the AOC Pretrial implementation sites is showing that Public Safety is being improved by implementing Legal and Evidence Based Pretrial Justice. Pretrial safety rates and no new violent criminal activity rates improved for all jurisdictions who have been implemented for at least one year. These charts reflect the percentage of defendants who had a case filed, with a disposition of all charges, that did NOT have new charges (Safety Rate) or new violent charges (No NVCA Rate) filed during the pretrial phase of their case.

Pre and Post Implementation Safety Rate



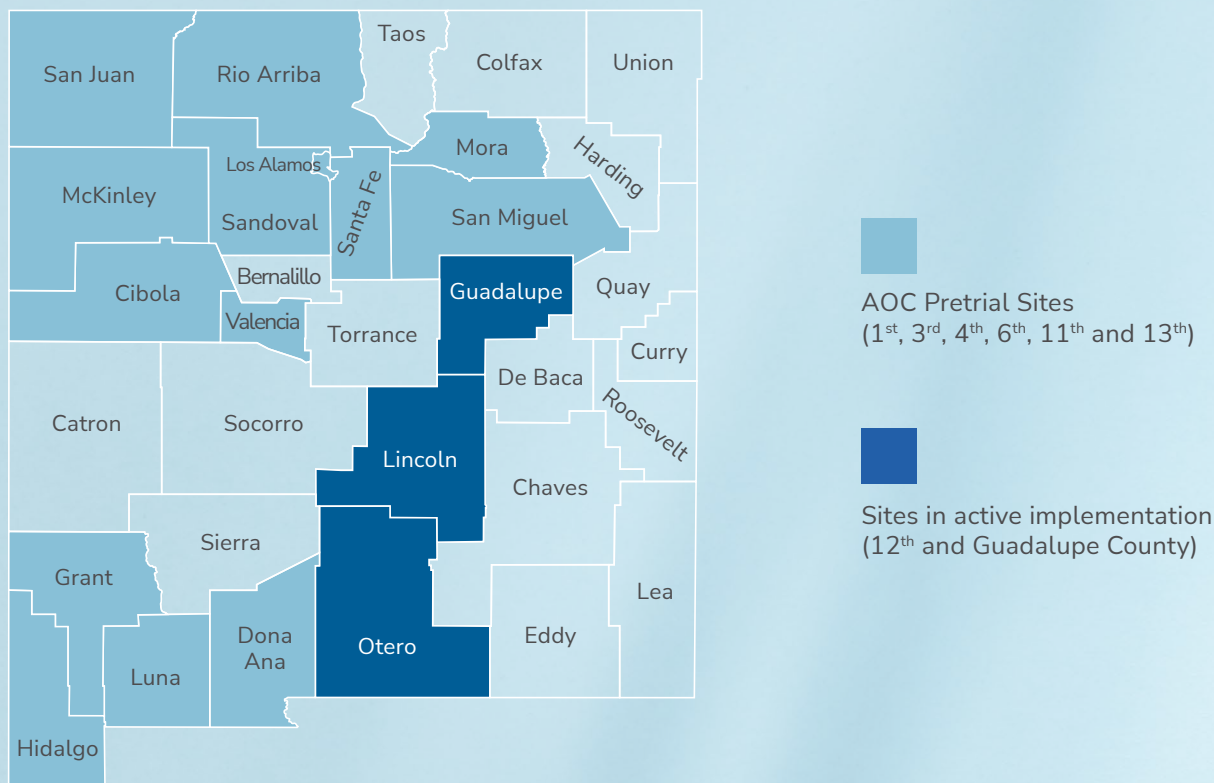
Pre and Post Implementation No NVCA Rate



The Road Ahead...

The AOC Pretrial Justice Program continues to work toward the mission of fostering and enhancing pretrial justice throughout the state. Over the last several years, the program has been working its way through the state with the target of statewide implementation by the end of FY25.

With each county and judicial district having their own unique and diverse characteristics, the AOC team works with stakeholder groups to develop partnerships and create new collaborations.



New Site: 12th Judicial District: Otero and Lincoln Counties

We are excited to bring on the 12th Judicial District and their new stakeholders in Lincoln and Otero counties. Work has started with both counties with an expected go live date in the Spring of 2024.



“The 12th District is greatly looking forward to this complete revamp of our Pretrial program. While the 12th District did already have a pretrial system in place, it was not based on evidence based practices. Working together with the Administrative Office of the Courts, the 12th District is working to rebrand from Pretrial Services to the new “Pretrial Program”. We are working together with the local Pretrial stakeholders, to implement a better evidence based program. We will also strive to promote pretrial justice; maximize community safety, and court appearances.”

Donnell Bryant - 12th Judicial District Pretrial Services Program Manager





LEADING PRETRIAL JUSTICE