



Five Steps of the Belknap Pretrial Process

1. INTERVIEW:

Five days a week Pretrial Services Officers interviews all pretrial detainees held in the County Jail overnight on cash or no bail, they explain the purpose of the interview and participation by detainee is voluntary. Part of the interviewing process is to gather relevant information on Detainee such as community ties, residence, telephone, employment, education, current charges, criminal and motor vehicle background checks, outstanding Warrants, Probation/Parole Supervision, and prior Pretrial Services history. The components of the interview assist the Pretrial Services Officer in determining appropriate Supervision.

2. VERIFICATION:

Upon completion of the initial interview, Pretrial Officers will verify the information obtained. The Pretrial Officer will inquire if the Detainee has anyone in their immediate family or friends who might be able to post bail for them.

3. COURT APPEARANCE:

The Pretrial Officer will appear in court for the arraignment with a summary of the interview conducted with the Detainee. The summary indicates what information has been verified and criminal/motor records may be attached. These forms are available to the, Prosecutor, and Defense attorney. If the Pretrial Officer cannot be present for arraignments, the officer will fax the interview information to the Prosecutor(s) and Defense Attorney. Pretrial Officers don't make any formal recommendation regarding a client's eligibility of release, however, can make recommendations regarding Supervision.

4. RELEASE:

The courts in criminal cases use the State of NH "Orders and Conditions of Bail" form NHJB-2369-D and in domestic violence cases form NHJB-2422-DS; they also refer to the Belknap County "Pretrial Services Orders and Conditions for Release Addendum."

5. SUPERVISION:

Pretrial Services supervises the conditions of release by implementing individualized supervision plans which may include, and not limited to:

- Batterer's Intervention and/or Anger Management Classes.
- Substance Abuse Programs such as Residential, PHP, IOP Treatment Program.
- Referral to Prevention Group, and/or Substance Abuse Education Programs.
- Random Urinalysis, Curfews, or Electronic Monitoring
- Mental Health Referrals or other Counseling.
- Random Residence Checks
- Pretrial Services provides an opportunity for Defendants to be assessed for eligibility for alternative sentencing programs and/or Diversion.

A. NON- COMPLIANCE:

Any violation(s) of bail conditions will be reported in writing with a brief synopsis of the Non-Compliance to the Prosecutor(s), and Defense Attorney. It is the discretion of the Prosecutor to act on non-compliance reports.

B. COMPLIANCE:

If a client complies with the Conditions of his/her bail release, they or their attorney may request a Summary Letter of Compliance from Pretrial Services to present the court.

Referrals:

The Court may order the Defendant to participate in a screening/intake to help determine the presence of a substance use disorder. Based upon results of screening or intake appropriate recommendations or referrals for treatment may be given to Defendant to follow. The Court will order the Defendant to follow all recommendations from the program's evaluations, LADC Counselors, or another other Licensed Professional(s) involved in the evaluation process.

Although the screening involves assessing for the presence of a Substance Use Disorder, it is not to be confused with a full Biopsychosocial Substance Evaluation which may consist of:

- Clinical Interview
- MAST / DAST: Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test
- ASAM Patient Placement Criteria
- Collateral information obtained through other sources

After the completion of the screening, referrals and/or recommendations are made by the LADC or other Licensed Professionals, clients will then be monitored for compliance purposes by Pretrial Service Officers.

From time to time Pretrial Service may offer some useful classes to clients. The list below contains some of the possible classes which may be offered from time to time by Pretrial Service which may be useful to clients. For more details, contact Pretrial Services directly.

Pretrial Services Classes
What to expect on Probation
Basic Nutrition Get Healthy
Batterers Intervention (Educational Portion Emerge Model)
Job Search @ Unemployment (Monday/Tuesday @9am)
Introduction to self help
Wants & Needs
Prime For Life
Perception vs Reality
Smart Recovery
Anger Management
What is Recovery Court / Drug Court
Bring on the Holidays
Exercise Benefits for Life
Self-Defense for Women
Grief & Loss during the Holiday Season
Budgeting for beginners
Thinking for a change
Conflict Management
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