

**Priority:** Safety  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:**

**Lead Agency:** Community Justice  
**Program Contact:** Patrick Schreiner

**Executive Summary**

The Adult Recognizance (Recog) Unit performs functions critical to the effective operation of our local criminal justice system by assisting the courts in making prompt and fair jail release decisions immediately following a defendant's arrest. The lowest risk defendants (those who are likely to appear for arraignment and are a low risk to re-offend) are released on their own recognizance reserving an estimated 5000 jail bed days per year for more serious offenders. During 2006, staff made close to 16,500 release decisions, releasing over 5000 defendants.

**Program Description**

The Recog Unit staffs the jail 24 hours, 7 days per week. Staff interview all defendants with a pending Multnomah County charge. Defendants charged with felonies and/or person-to-person misdemeanors are subject to a full criminal history and warrant check, as well as a risk screening. The interview, risk screen, and verification of information takes approximately 60 minutes per defendant. This process provides a comprehensive, objective, and valid system for release decisions that prioritizes victim and community safety and flight risk. Persons charged with major traffic offenses and/or non person-to-person misdemeanors (approximately 25% of incoming defendants) are subject to an expedited process consisting of a local warrant check and a failure-to-appear history on the charge for which the defendant is currently held. This abbreviated process is necessitated by current staffing levels, and has been acknowledged to be less than optimum. Recog provides a crucial after-hours link between police who have contact with parolees and parole officers who can authorize their detention for technical violations (e.g., possession of alcohol). Recog also provides after-hours links between parole officers and the electronic monitoring program and coordination for any critical incidents involving DCJ.

**Program Justification**

The Recog program supports the safety priority by administering an objective and valid system from which to make jail release decisions that prioritize victim and community safety. By administering this release process, the Recog Program saves valuable jail beds for more serious offenders. Additionally, Recog is an important 24-hour link between police and parole/probation officers by coordinating the process of holding parole and probation violators in jail.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY05-06)	Current Year Purchased (FY06-07)	Current Year Estimate (FY06-07)	Next Year Offer (FY07-08)
Output	Average number of release decisions conducted annually.	16,000	16,500	17,500	17,000
Outcome	Percent of interviewed defendants released on own recog who return to court.	61.0%	78.0%	61.0%	60.0%

**Performance Measure - Description**

Current year purchased outcome measure was based on failure-to-appear rate of a small-sized sample of defendants, which did not correlate to actual return rates.

## Legal/Contractual Obligation

Pretrial Release Services became statutory under Oregon revised Statutes, 135.230 and 135.260 in January 1974. ORS 135.245 requires a judge to impose the least restrictive condition necessary to ensure a defendant's later court appearance and to release persons in custody on their own recognizance unless conditions indicate such release is unwarranted.

## Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2007	2007	2008	2008
Personnel	\$1,172,796	\$0	\$1,228,056	\$0
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$57,229	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$17,157	\$0	\$18,404	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$1,189,953</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,303,689</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Administration	\$19,198	\$0	\$76,152	\$0
Program Support	\$119,805	\$0	\$176,586	\$40,801
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$139,003</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$252,738</b>	<b>\$40,801</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$1,328,956</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,556,427</b>	<b>\$40,801</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$1,328,956</b>		<b>\$1,597,228</b>	
Program FTE	15.60	0.00	15.10	0.00
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## Explanation of Revenues

County general fund \$1,303,689.

## Significant Program Changes

**Last year this program was: #50068, Adult Recog Program**

Contracts for interpreter services and translation services were moved from the Adult Services Division Director's Office for 2008.