

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

**Lead Agency:** Community Justice  
**Program Contact:** Duane Cole

**Executive Summary**

By assessing a defendant's potential to appear for court hearings and/or re-offend if released from custody, the Adult Recognizance (Recog) unit performs functions critical to the effective operation of the local justice system. The defendants determined to be most likely to appear for court hearings and a low-risk to re-offend are released on their agreement to return to court. This process results in maintaining jail bed availability for higher risk defendants.

**Program Description**

The Recog unit is a 24 hour, 7 day per week program housed in the jail. Recog staff interview all defendants with a pending Multnomah County charge. Defendants charged with felonies and/or person-to-person misdemeanor crimes are subject to a full criminal history and warrant check in addition to a risk screening. This process takes approximately one hour per defendant and provides a comprehensive, objective and valid system for release decisions which prioritizes victim and community safety in addition to the defendant's flight risk.

Persons charged with major traffic offenses and/or non person-to-person misdemeanors while not subject to a full interview do go through an expedited process consisting of a check for local warrants and a history of failure to appear on their current charge. While not ideal, this abbreviated process is necessitated due to current staffing levels.

**Program Justification**

The Recog program supports the safety priority by administering an objective and valid process from which jail release decisions (prioritizing community and victim safety) are made. By administering this process, the Recog program allows lower risk defendants the ability to maintain stabilizing ties, such as employment and housing, within the community. Additionally, Recog serves as a 24-hour link between police and Probation/Parole Officers by coordinating the process of holding parole and probation violators in jail and giving after hours information on the highest risk individuals who are on electronic monitoring.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY06-07)	Current Year Purchased (FY07-08)	Current Year Estimate (FY07-08)	Next Year Offer (FY08-09)
Output	Number of release decisions conducted. annually.	24,000	17,000	22,400	23,000
Outcome	Percent of interviewed defendants released on own recog who return to court.	69.0%	78.0%	69.0%	75.0%

**Performance Measure - Description**

Output measure includes full and expedited interviews. Outcome measure is derived from cases where a full interview is conducted.

## 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	2008	2008	2009	2009
Personnel	\$1,223,024	\$0	\$1,254,740	\$0
Contracts	\$57,229	\$0	\$330	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$18,404	\$0	\$18,573	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$1,298,657</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,273,643</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Administration	\$76,152	\$0	\$68,497	\$0
Program Support	\$176,586	\$40,801	\$173,404	\$36,432
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$252,738</b>	<b>\$40,801</b>	<b>\$241,901</b>	<b>\$36,432</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$1,551,395</b>	<b>\$40,801</b>	<b>\$1,515,544</b>	<b>\$36,432</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$1,592,196</b>		<b>\$1,551,976</b>	
Program FTE	15.10	0.00	14.60	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

## Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #50027A, Adult Recog Program