



Marion County Senate Bill (SB) 416 Prison Diversion Pilot

The Marion County SB 416 Pilot is an alternative rehabilitative program for non-violent career property and drug offenders who have an identifiable substance abuse issue and motivation to change their behavior and address their addiction. By providing a balance of treatment, professional mentors, and intensive supervision through the Parole and Probation Division of the Sheriff's Office, the program seeks to reverse long standing, substance abuse driven criminal thinking by offenders who are at a high risk to engage in further criminal behavior. The program is funded through Criminal Justice Commission's Justice Reinvestment Initiative, with monies being shared between the Marion County Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's (DA's) Office, and Bridgeway Recovery Services (BRS).

The program allows up to 60-80 participants to be entered into the program over a one year period. All program participants receive a level of case management that ensures a coordinated delivery of services. Program participants also receive evidence-based substance abuse treatment programming, as well as professional mentoring services through BRS. Supervision practices include increased contacts and an adherence to the Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) model developed by the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute. Access to employment services, housing, education, and parenting classes are also offered based on assessed risk factors.

A SB 416 participant must go through evaluations by both the District Attorney's Office and Sheriff's Office before entry is allowed. The District Attorney's office plays the role of gatekeeper by identifying potential candidates who meet the qualifying criteria designed to strike a balance between community safety and the goals of the program. Qualifying criteria that is considered includes whether the current crime charged carries a prison term (required), the defendant's history of probation violations, the scope of the crime(s) charges, and whether the defendant's criminal history includes convictions for domestic violence, sex offenses, or violent felonies. If a defendant is considered appropriate, the DA's office confirms that the individual considered is a medium to high risk offender based on the results of the Public Safety Checklist (an actuarial risk assessment tool that uses offender characteristics to predict the probability of recidivism).

If a defendant is determined to be an appropriate candidate, a referral is sent to the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office conducts a series of assessments and interviews with potential candidates to determine if they are appropriate for the program. These assessments include: the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LSCMI) to determine criminogenic risk factors; the University of Rhode Island Change Assessment (URICA) to determine motivation; and the Texas Christian University Drug Screen V (TCUDS V) to determine the severity of addiction. The totality of these assessments determines whether the candidate proceeds forward in the court process as a program candidate.

If a candidate is referred and approved by both the DA's and Sheriff's Offices, they are allowed to participate in the program and receive the services upon pleading guilty and being convicted of the crime(s) charged. Through this process, the SB 416 program seeks to divert a specific group of defendants from prison into a highly structured and supportive program. By providing a higher level of supervision and services which address risk factors correlated to criminal activity, the goal is to decrease the likelihood of recidivism and enhancing community safety.

Key Facts:

- Approximately 240 clients sentenced to the SB 416 program since inception.
- As approved by the Criminal Justice Commission's Justice Reinvestment Initiative, funding provides for a deputy district attorney, two probation officers, addiction treatment and mentoring, and five jail beds. Total yearly program cost: \$636,070
- 12 month recidivism rate: Of those clients sentenced to the SB 416 program, at the end of the first year only 12% committed a new felony compared to 27.9% of the general high risk population on probation in Marion County.
- Effectively supervising offenders sentenced to the SB 416 program in the community represents significant cost savings. Within any given year, there are approximately 60 clients within the SB 416 program. This equates to approximately 21,000 prison "bed days" saved by utilizing community supervision to safely manage and hold clients accountable in the community in lieu of sentencing them to prison.
- Mirrored by Lane and Klamath County and part of a randomized control trial coordinated by the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.

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