



Orleans Parish Criminal District Court Court Intervention Services | Pretrial Services Public Safety Assessment Bench Card

RELEASE AND SUPERVISION MATRIX

	RISK LEVEL 1	RISK LEVEL 2	RISK LEVEL 3	RISK LEVEL 4	RISK LEVEL 5
Release recommendation	RELEASE (ROR if eligible)	RELEASE (ROR if eligible)	RELEASE (ROR if eligible)	RELEASE (ROR if eligible)	DETENTION HEARING
Supervision recommendation	NO SUPERVISION	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION	STANDARD SUPERVISION	INTENSIVE SUPERVISION	MAXIMUM SUPERVISION if released
Court date reminder texts	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
New arrest checks		MONTHLY	MONTHLY	MONTHLY	MONTHLY
Face-to-face contact		AT INTAKE	ONCE A MONTH	TWICE A MONTH	AT LEAST 3 TIMES A MONTH
Phone contact		ONCE A MONTH	ONCE A MONTH	TWICE A MONTH	TWICE A MONTH

The Release and Supervision Matrix aims to promote successful outcomes for people while on pretrial release. It matches Public Safety Assessment (PSA) risk levels to recommended services and supports that can ensure public safety and a person's success after pretrial release to the community. This matrix was developed specifically for and by judicial officers of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court and local stakeholders.

The Release and Supervision Matrix is intended for use as an additional tool to inform decisions about detention, release, and conditions of release. Judicial officers will continue to make these decisions based on the circumstances that resulted in the arrest, the judicial officers' extensive knowledge of the law, and judicial discretion.

Decision-making matrix	NCA 1	NCA 2	NCA 3	NCA 4	NCA 4	NCA 5
FTA 1	RISK LEVEL 1	RISK LEVEL 1				
FTA 2	RISK LEVEL 1	RISK LEVEL 1	RISK LEVEL 2	RISK LEVEL 3	RISK LEVEL 4	RISK LEVEL 5
FTA 3		RISK LEVEL 2	RISK LEVEL 2	RISK LEVEL 3	RISK LEVEL 4	RISK LEVEL 5
FTA 4		RISK LEVEL 2	RISK LEVEL 3	RISK LEVEL 4	RISK LEVEL 4	RISK LEVEL 5
FTA 5		RISK LEVEL 3	RISK LEVEL 3	RISK LEVEL 4	RISK LEVEL 5	RISK LEVEL 5
FTA 6				RISK LEVEL 5	RISK LEVEL 5	RISK LEVEL 5

The Release and Supervision Matrix and the PSA-score Decision-Making Matrix (left) work in tandem, and this matrix summarizes Pretrial Services' process of arriving at risk scores.

For more information about what PSA scores mean and how the PSA is administered, please review details on the other side of the bench card.

PURPOSE OF THIS BENCH CARD

This benchcard is intended to provide key information about the use of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) as a tool to inform decisions about release terms set at First Appearance.

The Release and Supervision Recommendation Matrix with the PSA Decision-Making Matrix are presented on the other side of the page. This page presents short replies to frequently asked questions about the PSA and resources for learning more about the PSA.

This bench card was created by the Judicial Administrator's Office of the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court, with assistance from the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Coordination.

For questions and comments about this bench card, please contact pretrial@criminalcourt.org.

Why use the PSA?

The PSA has been shown to enhance the transparency and consistency of pretrial decisions.

Use of the PSA has helped jurisdictions ensure public safety and achieve higher rates of release while lowering the use of financial conditions, with little to no negative impact on crime or court appearance rates.

What do PSA scores mean?

The PSA calculates three outcome scores: Failure to Appear (FTA), New Criminal Arrest (NCA), & New Violent Criminal Arrest (NVCA).

Calculating PSA scores entails gathering information about factors that are predictive of successful pretrial outcomes, including:

1. Age at current arrest
2. Current violent offense
3. Prior violent offense
4. Pending charge(s) at time of offense
5. Prior misdemeanor conviction
6. Prior felony conviction
7. Prior sentence to incarceration
8. Prior failure to appear within the last 2 years
9. Prior failure to appear older than 2 years

For more information about the PSA, please go to <https://advancingpretrial.org/psa/about/>

What is the PSA?

The PSA is a validated pretrial risk assessment tool used in many jurisdictions around the country. It assesses the pretrial likelihood of a released person: 1) failing to appear (FTA) in court; 2) having a new criminal arrest (NCA); and 3) having a new violent criminal arrest (NVCA).

Results of the PSA are intended as an additional tool to guide decisions about detention, release, and conditions of release. Judicial officers will continue to make these decisions based on the circumstances of the case, extensive knowledge of the law, and judicial discretion.

To whom is the PSA administered?

The PSA is administered before First Appearance by intake specialists from Court Intervention Services' Pretrial Services (PTS) to individuals who meet the following criteria :

- 18 years of age or older
- Arrested for allegedly committing a crime in the community
- Have been booked into the Orleans Justice Center
- Will appear before a judicial officer for a pretrial release decision, including bond setting.

The PSA is **not** administered to people who allegedly committed offenses while in jail custody; those who are released on preset bonds; and people who were arrested only on warrants or alleged probation or parole violations.

Is the PSA relevant in DV cases?

Yes. Domestic violence cases were used in national and local validation studies of the PSA. The PSA was found to be valid in predicting pretrial outcomes (court appearance and new criminal arrests) for all types of cases, including DV.

Note, however, that the PSA does not predict lethality. Many local law enforcement agencies use a Supplemental Report (lethality checklist), which may be available to the District Attorney's Office and provided as an additional piece of information to inform judicial officers' decisions.

