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SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WORKING IN OUR NATION'S JAILS

## American Jail Association Resolution Pretrial Services

- WHEREAS,** jails are populated by a majority of individuals in a pretrial status, and
- WHEREAS,** pretrial services can provide neutral and objective information required to make an appropriate release recommendation to the court by utilizing tools. These tools include objective risk and needs screening instruments, and
- WHEREAS,** crowded jails present a safety concern for jail administration and officer safety, and
- WHEREAS,** pretrial supervision can be a safe and cost effective alternative to jail for those awaiting trial, and
- WHEREAS,** pretrial conditions offer access to services such as substance abuse and mental health treatment, often resulting in diversion programs in lieu of prosecution and thereby decreasing jail populations, while commercial sureties do not, and
- WHEREAS,** pretrial services personnel compile reports on those they supervise, noting compliance with conditions, while commercial sureties do not.
- THEREFORE BE  
IT RESOLVED  
THAT** the Board of Directors of the American Jail Association recognize the value of high-functioning pretrial services agencies to enhance public and officer safety, safeguard the judicial process, and aid jail administrators in safely managing jail populations.

*Adopted on March 4, 2020, by the AJA Board of Directors.*

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