



Getting Supervision Right



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Renewing the Focus on Strengthening Community Supervision

- Gov. Reagan in 1971: “Our rehabilitation policies and improved parole system are attracting nationwide attention. Fewer parolees are being returned to prison than at any time in our history, and our prison population is lower than at any time since 1963.”



Right on Crime Enters the Field

- Former AG Ed Meese, Speaker Newt Gingrich, Gov. Jeb Bush, Former Drug Czar Bill Bennett, Grover Norquist, and Other Conservative Leaders Endorse Right on Crime Statement of Principles
- Statement Supports Reining in Growth of Non-Traditional Criminal Laws, Cost-Effective Alternatives for Nonviolent Offenders, Emphasis on Restitution and Treatment, and Performance Measures.



Advances in Treatment & Supervision

- 1960's emphasis on building self esteem has given way to approaches like motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral therapy that are grounded in research.
- New tools have been developed such as actuarial risks/needs assessment and electronic monitoring, which can reduce absconding by 89%.



		2015			2014		2013			2012				2011				2010			2009		2008					2007			Total						
Policy reform		UT	AL	NE	ID	MS	OR	SD	WV	KS	MO	DE	GA	PA	HI	OK	AR	KY	AL	LA	NC	OH	SC	NH	MI	IL	WI	AZ	PA	CT	RI	VT	KS	NV	TX	Total	
Community corrections	Establish earned discharge (probation/parole)	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓					✓	✓				✓								13	
	Authorize performance incentive funding	✓	✓				✓							✓			✓	✓					✓	✓		✓							✓			10	
	Authorize administrative jail sanctions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓												14	
	Authorize graduated responses for violations	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓											✓	✓	18	
	Cap revocation time	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓		✓																12
	Establish/improve electronic monitoring					✓			✓				✓				✓	✓		✓												✓				7	
	Establish mandatory re-entry supervision		✓	✓					✓	✓							✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓											10	
	Require/improve risk-needs assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				✓					20	
	Require evidence-based practices	✓	✓	✓				✓					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓			✓	✓				✓			✓		14	
	Reform/pilot specialty courts (HOPE, drug courts, etc.)					✓	✓	✓	✓				✓					✓	✓	✓	✓															9	
	Reduce probation terms		✓													✓																✓			✓	4	
Improve interventions for substance abuse, mental health, CBT, etc.	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓										✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	17		

Risk/Needs Assessments

- ▣ Actuarial, validated instruments match offenders with right level of supervision
- ▣ Avoids under or over-supervising, informs caseload levels
- ▣ Administer on an ongoing basis as some factors like employment, stable housing are dynamic
- ▣ In 2015, Texas implemented system-wide tool based on Ohio's model.



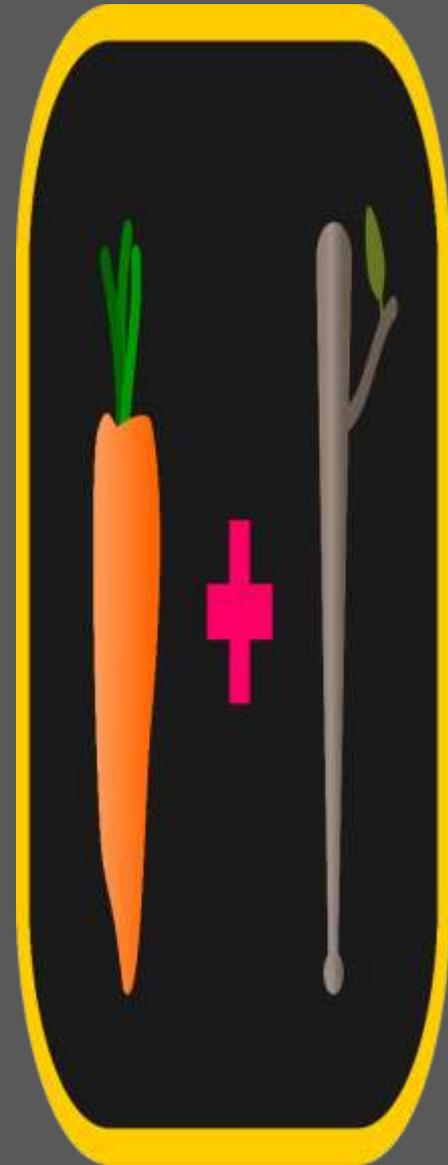
Problem-Solving Courts

- Drug courts: 34% lower recidivism: should focus on high-risk offenders who would have gone to prison.
- Hawaii HOPE Court with regular testing, treatment as needed, and weekend jail in few cases of non-compliance: 2/3 less re-offending, costs a third of drug court.
- Use assessment to ensure these courts do not focus on low-hanging fruit



Graduated Responses to Promote Compliance

- ▣ Research shows swiftness and sureness of sanction more impactful than duration and positive incentives are most powerful.
- ▣ Sanctions can include curfew, extending probation term, and weekend in jail.
- ▣ Positive incentives include bus tokens, reduced reporting, and reduced fines.



Implementing Graduated Responses

- ▣ Ohio and Kansas are among states that have implemented a grid of graduated responses to help guide probation officers that takes into account risk level and seriousness of violation.
- ▣ Washington state has shifted all of parole to HOPE Court model.
- ▣ Research found a model of sanctions and rewards where rewards are used four times as much produced 71% increase in successful supervision completions.



The Earned Time Revolution

- ▣ States such as Georgia, Texas, and Ohio have recently adopted or expanded earned time for those on probation.
- ▣ ALEC model legislation and pending bill by Senators Cornyn & Whitehouse.
- ▣ Studies of policies in New York, Wisconsin, and Washington find reduced recidivism as offenders have incentive to complete rehabilitative programs.



The Incentive Funding Model: Aligning Goals & Funding

- ▣ Gives counties the option to receive some state funds now spent incarcerating non-violent offenders in exchange for setting a prison commitment target and reducing recidivism.
- ▣ Funds could be used for treatment, stronger probation, electronic monitoring, prevention, problem-solving courts, law enforcement, and victim services.





Texas Probation Reform Proves the Right Incentives Work

- ▣ In 2005, additional \$55 million in funding for stronger probation supervision to probation departments that adopted progressive sanctions.
- ▣ Participating probation departments reduced their technical revocations by 16% while those that didn't increased technical revocations 8%.
- ▣ Had all departments increased their revocations by 8%, another 2,640 revocations for an average of 2.5 years at a cost to taxpayers of \$119 million, not including prison construction.
- ▣ Texas probation revocation rate declined from 16.4% in 2005 to 14.7% in 2010.

Strengthen Probation: Demand Results

- 2008-09: CA., IL. & AZ. pass performance-based probation funding measures providing departments with incentive funding for fewer commitments, fewer new crimes, and more restitution. AZ. measure led to 31% decline in new crimes and 28% drop in revocations.
- IL. bill requires system-wide use of assessment instruments that match risk and needs to supervision strategies, tracking an offender from entry to reentry.



Expand Post-Release Supervision

- ▣ 2014 Pew study: 1 in 5 inmates max out and thus are released without supervision.
- ▣ Pew 2013 New Jersey study found similar inmates put on parole had 36% fewer new offenses than max-outs. Promotes continuity of care for mentally ill.
- ▣ Use some savings from reduced time served to expand post-release supervision



Day Reporting Centers

- Often targeted at probationers who need more structure as alternative to initial incarceration or used as parole condition.
- Union County, PA. center has 10.2% recidivism rate, Orange County, FL. has 82% success rate.
- Elements may include work, faith-based options, treatment as needed, literacy and other instruction, job placement, meeting restitution obligations, contribution to daily cost as able, drug testing.
- N.C.: Day reporting centers cost half of jail.



Day Reporting Center, Dover, DE

Athens, GA. Day Reporting Center

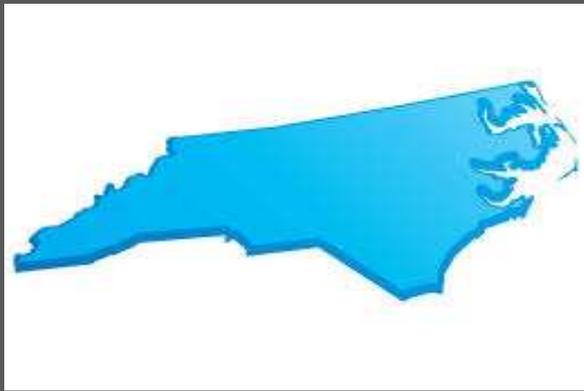


Rick Thomas installs hardwood floors in an Athens apartment complex as part of his construction job. Thomas graduated from the Day Reporting Center opened in 2008 by the Department of Corrections. Newly released offenders with a history of a substance abuse and cognitive challenges receive counseling and supervision. To graduate, participants must hold and maintain a job for 90 days. Georgia has 11 day reporting centers.



South Carolina's 2010 Reforms Lead to Less Crime & Incarceration

- ▣ In 2010, S.C. policymakers passed comprehensive reform, including graduated sanctions matrix for supervision, reduced penalties on low-level drug possession, supervision for previously flat discharged inmates, earned credits for probationers, risk/needs assessment to guide supervision level, and reallocation of 35% of prison savings to supervision.
- ▣ Reductions in supervision revocations in 2011 and 2012 saved \$7 million.
- ▣ State has closed 1.5 prisons since 2010.
- ▣ Crime rate down 12.2% since 2010.



North Carolina's 2011 Reforms Reduce Crime, Incarceration

- ▣ In 2011, N.C. policymakers adopted a comprehensive plan that required supervision for formerly flat discharged inmates, made habitual offender penalties proportionate to offense, strengthened probation/treatment, limited technical revocations to 90 days, and allows officers to use 2-3 days in jail as sanction.
- ▣ Since 2011, crime down 11%, returns to prison down 14%.
- ▣ Since 2011, 10 correctional facilities closed, savings of \$560 million.

Key Resources

▣ Crime & Justice Institute

www.crj.org

▣ ALEC (including model legislation)

www.alec.org

▣ Pew Public Safety

Performance Project

www.pewcenteronthestates.org

▣ Council of State Governments

www.csgjusticecenter.org

▣ Justice Fellowship

www.justicefellowship.org

▣ TPPF & Right on Crime

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