



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Deputy COO Jeston Black

FROM: Denise Pena, DCJ Director

DATE: April 16th, 2026

SUBJECT: Department of Community Justice Recog Unit

This memo details information in regards to DCJ's Recog Unit, which currently provides 24/7 coverage in three primary categories. Duties specific to DCJ needs, support for jail capacity through application of the Presiding Judges Order (PJO) for release plans and completion of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) to aid in PJO application for release as well as setting levels of monitoring for pretrial.

For additional context, DCJ's FY2027 5% constraint totaled approximately \$4.5 million

In FY26, Recog has 13 Corrections Technicians (CTs) assigned and 1 Sworn Community Justice Manager (SCJM)

In the Chair's proposed DCJ FY27 budget:

- \$1,759,775 was reduced to meet the deficit in the County General Fund related to Pretrial functions. \$1,041,890 was reduced within the program elimination of Pretrial Services Program (PO 50018) and the reduction of \$445,388 that previously supported pretrial services is proposed to be reduced from Adult Records and Administrative Services (50017). Additionally \$272,497 (2.00 FTE) was reduced in PO 50018 for Recog support related to Pretrial functions based on the workload absorption by the remaining Recog CTs.
- 2 Recog CTs are proposed to move to the Stabilization and Readiness Program (SARP - PO 50041) so the SARP program can be fully staffed (\$287,883) and is not included in the pretrial reduction above.
- The 9 remaining Recog CTs (\$1,578,736) were moved to Custody and Release Services (PO 50019) which will provide 24-hour liaison between law enforcement agencies and Parole-Probation Officers, coordinating the process for holding individuals for probation and post-prison violations. They will also provide 24/7 support to designated release assessments completed based on agreement with the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office.

They will compile data for pre-sentence investigations and hearings officers as well as connect with individuals on supervision in custody to determine housing needs and connect them to housing resources for their release.

The Recognizance Unit provides critical support, and a complete elimination would create operational challenges:

- The reorganized program, Custody and Release Services, includes a Sworn Community Justice Manager (SCJM) that the Court's proposal eliminates by utilizing the FY2026 allocation. This program will now include Recog and our Local Control and Hearings Unit (Pre-sentence Investigations, Hearings Officers, Notice of Rights and Court attendance), requiring management oversight.
- Without Recog, the workload for Records Technicians (RTs) would increase, which is not supported by the proposed budget to reduce two RTs. Currently a single contact point (Recog) is entered into LEDS for each client on supervision, regardless of caseload. Updating the individual PPO contact information for each of the approximately 4,500 active clients on supervision is an administrative strain that could not be realistically met with the FY 27 proposed capacity.
- PPOs are limited by the FOPPO CBA regarding after hour assignments, with several additional considerations:
 - Increased costs associated with PPOs taking calls that are not detaining but providing info to law enforcement on conditions, location, victims and delays in response to law enforcement in the field.
 - ASD has 16 sworn managers that have authority to issue detainer
 - FOPPO CBA (2024-2027)- FOPPO receiving after hours may respond but are not required to. Every call equates to one hour of OT.