

# Reentry Courts and Beyond

Managing Offenders After Realignment

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## The Beginning: California Parolee Reentry Courts

- Total of 5 programs in the state
- Program created by state statute
- Funding provided by State through Federal Stimulus Funds

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## Why Reentry Courts were Created

- Stop Return of Parole Violators to Prison
- Draw on Proven Evidence Based Practice of Drug Courts
- Concentrate on High Risk and High Needs Offenders who are substance abusers and/or mentally ill
- Allow diversity in the approaches used in each Court

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### Target Population

- More intensive services should be reserved for higher risk offenders
- Validated assessment instruments should be used to help identify appropriate and inappropriate candidates
- Need for multiple and ongoing assessments
  - Criminal risk
  - Needs
    - What are they
    - Severity
  - Reassessment

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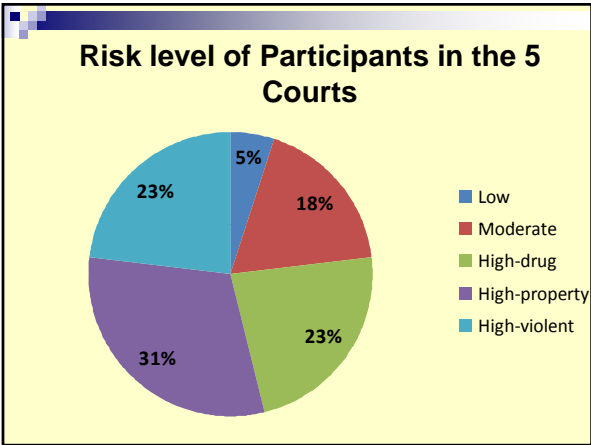
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### California Parolee Reentry Courts

#### Participants by Level of Need

- 98% are criminal thinkers
- 86% are unemployed at the time of entry
- 83% do not have stable housing at entry.
- 98% use drugs (average of 21 years of use)

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## Services Provided

- The most effective interventions are behavioral
  - Focus on current factors that influence behavior
  - Action oriented
- The most effective behavioral models
  - Involve structured social learning where new skills are modeled and reinforced
  - Cognitive behavioral approaches that target criminogenic risk factors

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## Services Provided

- Criminogenic needs are intermediate targets and should be the focus of treatment programming.
  - Antisocial Attitudes
  - Antisocial Peers
  - Substance Abuse
  - Mental Health
  - Impulsivity
  - Employment
  - Family Dysfunction



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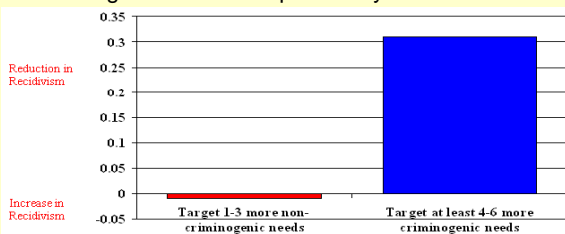
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## Services Provided

- Assess and target criminogenic needs for change to reduce the probability of recidivism.



Source: Gendreau, P., French, S.A., and A.Taylor (2002). What Works (What Doesn't Work) Revised 2002. Invited Submission to the International Community Corrections Association Monograph Series Project

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## Other Services Provided

- Address other needs that may interfere (present a barrier to) with treating dynamic risk factors
  - Housing
  - Motivation
  - Child Care
  - Family
  - Transportation
  - Other

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## Did Reentry Courts Produce Better Outcomes?

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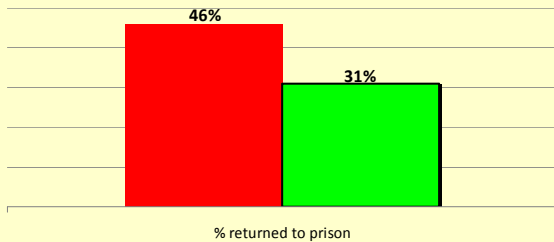
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## 1 year Prison Return Rates

■ All state prison releases   ■ Reentry court participant cohort



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**Beyond Reentry Courts**

**The Sentencing and Treatment World After Realignment**

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**Now Three Groups To Manage**

- ▣ Serious /violent and sex offenders released from prison on parole who are supervised by Parole and are in violation status.
- ▣ Non serious/violent felony offenders released from prison to community supervision by probation, and are in violation status.
- ▣ Newly sentenced felony offenders sentenced to a split term of custody followed by Mandatory Supervision by Probation and are in violation status.

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**The Challenge to the Courts**

- Stand on the sidelines

OR

- Collaborate with Probation, Treatment and the Sheriff to reach better outcomes and become active in monitoring these offenders using the practices developed in Drug Courts and Reentry Courts

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**Response of Three Courts and Counties:**

San Diego  
San Joaquin  
Santa Clara

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**MANDATORY SUPERVISION COURT  
BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS**

NOVEMBER 22, 2013



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**REVIEW OF WHAT WORKS**

- Programming in custody with transition to community is critical
- Strong partnership between treatment and probation results in improved outcomes
- Need consistent, well defined, and immediate incentives and sanctions
- Court involvement is paramount
- Changing behavior and becoming healthy takes time, patience, and persistence

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## AN IMPORTANT PUBLIC SAFETY TOOL

- Application of reentry sentencing
- Allows for the implementation of evidence based interventions that reduce an offender's risk of recidivism
- Provides a reentry period for offenders integrating back into the community
- Mitigates the impact on jail capacity

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## OVERVIEW OF THE COLLABORATIVE PLAN

- Pre-Sentence Assessment and Case Planning
- In-Custody Reentry Services
- Pre-release Court Hearing
- Proactive Supervision in the Community
- Regular Status Hearings with the Court
- Incentive Based Supervision Step-Down
- Promotion of Self-Sufficiency & Aftercare

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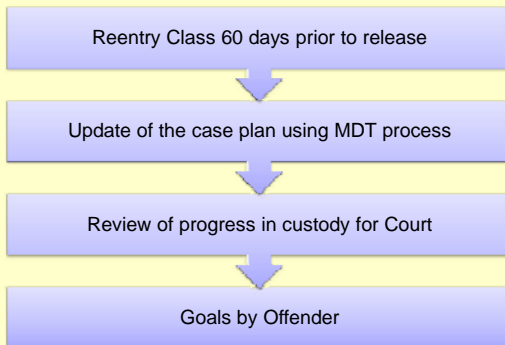
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## PRE-RELEASE PLANNING



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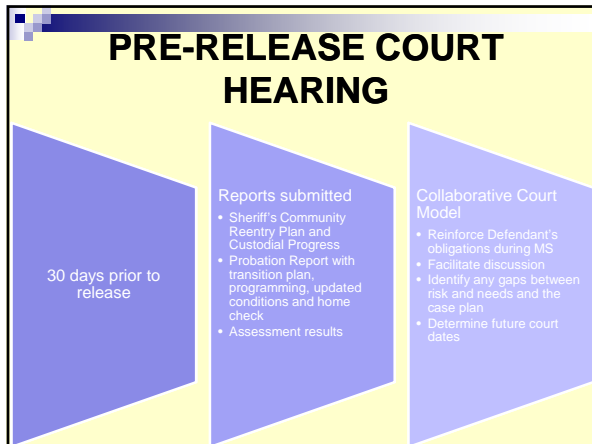
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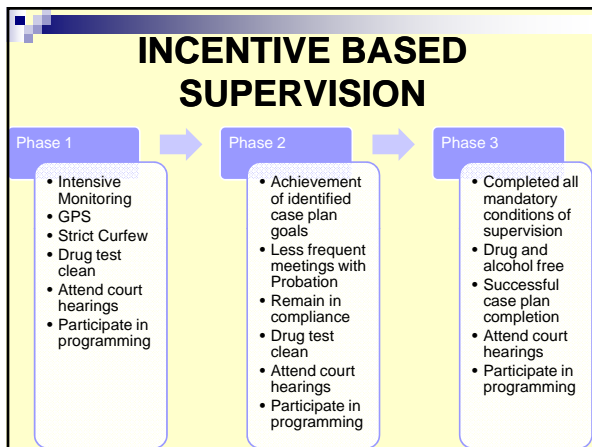
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## USE OF SPLIT SENTENCING

- Statewide, approximately 27%\* of sentences are split (\*As of March 2013)
- Counties throughout the state vary widely in their use of split sentencing
- In San Diego, approximately 22% of sentences are split
- Currently, the longest split sentence is 18 years (12 in custody and the remaining 6 years to be in the community on mandatory supervision)

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## PRELIMINARY RESULTS

- 304 Cases have been reviewed pre-release (276 Defendants)
- 697 Review Hearings thus far
- Education of Offenders, Attorneys and Bench
- Consistency increased
  - Splitting right cases for right reasons
  - More immediate consequences for behavior
  - Offenders getting enhanced supervision, drug testing, treatment options
- Lower recidivism rate for these MSO Court Offenders than those with a Straight Sentence

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## THE SAN JOAQUIN MODEL – Parolees, PRCS, and Mandatory Supervision

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**POST SUPERVISION RELEASE  
REENTRY PROGRAM**

- Assessment by Compliance Officer
- Specific Care Plan
- Court Monitoring on a regular basis
- Warrants
- Modifications
- New Convictions

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**HIGH VIOLENT OFFENDER  
COURT**

- Assessed by Probation as either a High Risk Violent Offender or Gang Affiliate
- Further Assessment as to Needs by Compliance Officer
- Individualized Treatment Plan
- Court Monitoring on a weekly basis
- Caseload size not exceed 50 at any time
- Incentives and Sanctions
- New Convictions

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**THE SANTA CLARA MODEL –  
Parolees, PRCS, and Mandatory  
Supervision**

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**THE PAROLEE AND PRCS AND MANTATORY SUPERVISION REENTRY COURT**

- Prior to filing a Petition, Parole Agents and Probation Officers refer violators to this intervention and do not file the Petition
- After a petition has been filed, the Judge hearing the violation will also refer high risk/need violators of PRCS, Parole and Mandatory Supervision the to the Reentry Court

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**THE PAROLE AND PRCS/MS REVIEW CALENDARS**

- Petitions for Parole Violations heard on one calendar
- Petitions for PRCS and Violations of MS are heard on a separate calendar
- Following arraignment, those offenders who are absconders or at moderate risk to reoffend and have substantial needs are monitored through review calendars
- Two Judges monitor these offenders.

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**THE PAROLE AND PRCS/MS REVIEW CALENDARS**

- Warrants
- Modifications
- New Convictions
  - Sentencing Judge referral of new MS cases to Reentry Court

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## Funding

- If these approaches really have promise, who pays to implement and sustain them?



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## TWO LEVELS OF FUNDING AVAILABLE

- \$3.4 Million for 4 Reentry Courts serving as the intervention for Parole violators paid by CDCR
- AB 109 dollars to pay the costs for PRCS and Mandatory Supervision violators

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What questions do you have for the Panel?



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THANK YOU!



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