



GLOSSARY

Adult Redeploy Illinois is a state initiative providing funding and technical assistance to local jurisdictions to support the diversion of non-violent offenders from prison to more effective and less expensive community-based supervision and services.

Adult Transition Centers are designed to assist offenders in work-release status to transition from secure custody and to be prepared for Mandatory Supervised Release (parole).

Alternatives to incarceration include fines, restitution, community service, probation, house arrest, rehabilitation programs (substance abuse and mental health treatment). In Illinois nearly 2/3 of all those convicted are not sent to prison, but are placed on probation.

Bail Bond System allows defendants to be released before trial. Illinois does not allow the operation of commercial bail bond companies. Instead, the bond is paid to the clerk of the circuit court. There are several types of bonds available, and they may differ in other areas of the state. In Cook County there are three types of bonds. They are:

I-Bond. The person is released on his/her own recognizance (no money bond ordered) and promises to return for all court dates.

D-Bond. This allows the payment of 10% of the bail amount. Cook County keeps this fee regardless of the outcome of the case as a processing fee. Other jurisdictions also impose fees, limiting the amount of the 10% bond returned, if any.

C-Bond. This is the full cash payment of the bail. The entire amount will be returned if the person appears in court (minus any fees imposed, dependent on the outcome of the case.)

Best Practices are repeatable procedures that have proven themselves over time but not necessarily proven through rigorous research.

Circuit Courts are state trial courts of original jurisdiction; that is, they hear a case for the first time. There are 24 judicial circuits in the state, each comprising one or more of Illinois' 102 counties.

Community Policing emphasizes working with neighborhood residents to coproduce public safety.

Consent Decree (Police) is a court order that establishes an enforceable plan for sustainable reform. Typically, consent decrees are detailed documents that include specific requirements and deadlines for action.

Criminal is one who breaks the law.

Criminal Justice is the system of law enforcement, involving police, lawyers, courts, and corrections, used for all stages of criminal proceedings and punishment.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCCs) were recommended by **The Illinois State Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform (CJSR)** to be established by the **Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA)**. The county-based CJCCs are committees that facilitate cross-agency collaboration and information exchange within the criminal justice system. CJCCs assist counties in creating and sustaining collaboration among a variety of criminal justice agencies and stakeholders while gaining a more thorough understanding of criminal justice issues. CJCCs can guide better use of resources, reduce costs of the criminal justice system, and devise more effective and sustainable criminal justice initiatives and programs.

Criminal Justice Stakeholders are of two kinds: internal stakeholders include police officers, judges, probation officers, parole officers, correctional officers, lawyers, court personnel, and other individuals; external stakeholders include elected officials, the media, service providers, advocates, businesses, families, schools, and society in general.

Criminogenic needs are dynamic (changeable) risk factors that are proven through research to affect recidivism. They indicate a likelihood to cause criminal behavior. See **Risk and Needs Assessment**.

Defense attorney is an attorney who represents a person facing criminal charges. Sometimes the defense attorney is a public defender who is paid by the state

Deferred Prosecution occurs when an offender agrees to fulfill certain requirements which, if completed satisfactorily, will result in charges dismissed without any record of the offense.

Deflection is a relationship between police and behavioral health services in a community (including housing providers, mental health services and substance abuse treatment) that allows police officers the option not to make an arrest.

Diversion refers to a sentence in which the offender joins a rehabilitation program, designed to help remedy the behavior leading to the original arrest. Diversion allows the offender to avoid conviction and, in some cases, the record is sealed and/or expunged.

Electronic Monitoring (EM) is used in two situations: to allow a defendant to be freed from jail or for those who have completed their prison sentence, to be freed from prison (a restriction imposed by **Mandatory Supervised Release**.) EM can be quite restrictive. In pretrial situations, the sheriff or pretrial services (under the supervision of the circuit court) is responsible for electronic monitoring. In Mandatory Supervised Release, IDOC personnel are responsible for EM.

Emerging Adults are young adults, 18-25 who are transitioning into fully mature, independent adults. Researchers believe that people in this age group, because their brains are not fully developed, are not as criminally culpable as adults.

Evidence-Based Practices: approaches which have been empirically researched and proven to have measureable positive outcomes. See [Evidence-Based Practices](#) .

Expungement is a court-ordered process in which the legal record of an arrest or a criminal conviction is physically destroyed and removed from public criminal records.

Felony murder: a legal rule that expands the definition of murder. It applies when someone commits a certain kind of felony and someone else dies in the course of the crime. It does not matter whether the death was intentional or accidental—the defendant is liable for it.

Gender-responsive programming and policies: sensitive to the gender identities of those incarcerated in order to provide better living situations in prison as well as more positive outcomes for all.

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) was created in 1983 and dedicated to improving the administration of criminal justice. ICJIA brings together key leaders from the justice system and the public to identify critical issues facing the criminal justice system in Illinois, and to propose and evaluate policies, programs, and legislation that address those issues. ICJIA also works to ensure the criminal justice system in Illinois is efficient and effective. Its statutory responsibilities fall under the categories of grants administration, research and analysis, policy and planning, and information systems and technology.

Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) was created by the Illinois General Assembly in 2009 to collect, analyze and present data from all cogs of the criminal justice machine to more accurately determine the consequences of sentencing policy decisions. As a non-partisan and independent sentencing commission, the Council reviews resource needs across the criminal justice system and reviews the effectiveness and efficiency of current sentencing policies and practices. SPAC reports directly to the Illinois General Assembly, the Illinois Supreme Court, and the Governor.

Illinois State Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform (CJSR) was created by Governor Rauner in 2015 and tasked with conducting a comprehensive review of the State's current criminal justice and sentencing structure, sentencing practices, community supervision, and the use of alternatives to incarceration, and to make recommendations for amendments to state law that will reduce the State's current prison population by 25% by 2025. The Commission made a total of 27 recommendations.

Implicit Bias refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner.

Investment in Underserved Communities: involves allocating capital, credit, and training, primarily in the following areas:

- Needed services (includes fostering healthy communities, education, childcare, and access to transit, jobs, food, and affordable housing)
- Economic development (includes creating quality jobs and developing the infrastructure to support the community)
- Sustainable communities (involves growth strategies, environmental considerations, and energy resilience.)

Jail is a place for the confinement of people accused or convicted of a crime. If a sentence exceeds 12 months, a convicted offender is generally transferred to a prison.

Mandatory Supervised Release (MSR) is related to but is not parole. Whereas parole is the early release of a prisoner from prison, MSR occurs when the prison sentence has been completed. The length of MSR is imposed by the trial judge at sentencing. If the conditions of MSR are not met (see **Technical violation**), the releasee may be returned to prison or the length of his MSR extended. MSR that is goal-oriented is an alternative to a strict length of time, focusing on the completion of goals designed to enhance a smooth transition into society

Parole is the early release of a prisoner from prison who agrees to abide by certain conditions. Currently, it exists only for inmates sentenced prior to 1978 and for qualified juveniles (sentenced after the passage of PA100-1182 in 2019) who have served at least ten years of their sentence.

Pretrial Services collects and analyzes defendant information for use in determining risk, to make recommendations to the court concerning conditions of release, and to supervise defendants who are released from secure custody during the pretrial phase.

Probation is a sentence of community supervision imposed by the court generally in lieu of incarceration. In Illinois nearly 2/3 of all those convicted are not sent to prison, but are placed on probation. See **Alternatives to Incarceration**.

Prosecutor is the legal party responsible for presenting the case in a criminal trial against an individual accused of breaking the law. In Illinois, the prosecutor is also known as the State's Attorney (SA) or an Assistant State's Attorney (ASA).

Prison is a place of confinement in which people are legally held as a punishment for a crime they have committed. Those convicted of federal offenses are held in federal facilities; those convicted of state offenses are held in state facilities.

Problem-Solving Courts (PSC) such as mental health courts, drug courts, and veterans' courts are comprised of teams of specially trained judges, attorneys, probation officers, coordinators, and clinical specialists who provide wrap-around services and intensive monitoring of defendants who are in the criminal justice system as a result of substance abuse, mental health, or co-occurring disorders.

Problem-Solving Court Team: The team responsible for implementing the daily operations of a PSC. The PSC team shall include the judge, a prosecutor, a public defender, probation officer(s), licensed treatment provider(s), and the local PSC coordinator. PSC teams may include additional team members, including a participant's private counsel of record.

Public Defender is an attorney who represents an indigent person facing criminal charges. The public defender is paid by the state.

Public health connections to crime involves a shift in the way our society addresses crime, from a focus on reacting to crime after it occurs to a focus on changing the social, behavioral, and environmental factors that cause crime.

Public Safety Assessment (PSA) is a research-based assessment that helps judges make more informed pretrial decisions. See also **Risk and Needs Assessment**

Punitive sentences are sentences intended to inflict punishment in contrast to sentences designed to rehabilitate.

Recidivism refers to a person's relapse into criminal behavior after the person had received sanctions or undergone intervention for previous crime.

Restorative Justice is a system of justice which focuses on the rehabilitation of offenders through reconciliation of the offender with victims and the community at large.

Released on recognizance: Released without cash bond—see Bail Bond System.

Risk and Needs Assessment is a tool for determining: a person's likelihood of reoffending, the appropriate level of supervision, and the person's needs (such as treatment for substance use disorders) that, if addressed, would reduce the risk of reoffending.

Sealed records are not destroyed, but are kept confidential. The general public will not usually have access to sealed records, but law enforcement agencies will.

Sentencing Guidelines are the rules defined by Illinois sentencing law that judges must follow when they are imposing a sentence for a felony.

Sentencing retroactivity : A retroactive sentence is a new sentence that applies to a previously sentenced crime. This can occur when the sentencing laws change and the new penalty for a crime is less harsh. Essentially, these sentences reduce the time a person will be required to serve in prison. A retroactive sentence can only reduce an existing sentence; it cannot increase it. Sentencing retroactivity, however, is not automatic and is generally not applied to those incarcerated under the old law.

State's Attorney is the lawyer in Illinois who represents the interest of the state at trial, the prosecutor.

Stakeholders in the criminal justice system may include elected and/or appointed local justice agency directors, others with a vested interest in local government, and community members. These may include substance use and mental health treatment providers; victim's advocates; those offering housing resources, workforce training or educational assistance; veteran's advocates; members of faith-based groups; offender rights group representatives; and former offenders.

Technical violation can apply to persons on **probation** or on **Mandatory Supervised Release**. Noncompliance with one or more conditions of supervision may result in sanctions or incarceration.