

ReEntry Incorporated
Pretrial Services Program

ReEntry, Inc. is a non-profit agency that was founded in 1977 to provide new and innovative ways in which to serve the needs of the Wake County Criminal Justice System. The Pretrial Services Program was started in 1981 to assist Wake County in reducing the jail population. The Program has gradually grown since that time. The Pretrial Services Program is funded 100% by Wake County.

Steps in being released to the Pretrial Services Program

1. The defendant is arrested and brought to the Wake County jail.
2. The defendant is fingerprinted and photographed; the City-County Bureau of Identification gathers personal information. A national criminal background check is completed on the defendant.
3. The defendant is taken before a magistrate to have the bond set. The bond amount is based on the defendant's charge, whether or not the defendant was cooperative during the arrest and the defendant's previous arrest record. The magistrate may set the bond as unsecured bond, a written promise to appear, a custody release or release to the Pretrial Services Program (all of which are free to the defendant), or the magistrate may set a secured bond in which the defendant has to either post the bond or post a property bond that is equal to the secured bond.
4. Pretrial Services staff will check the Sheriff's database (AS400 mainframe) to see if the defendant has been on Pretrial Services before. If the defendant has been unsuccessful on Pretrial Services within the past three years, then the defendant will not be interviewed. Pretrial Services staff will then interview all defendants except for those with charges prohibited by the Wake County Bond Order or defendants with charges that are eligible for the "Free the People" program. Defendants with no address are not interviewed.
5. During the interview, information about where the person lives, employment and criminal background (gathered from the local and state AOC database, CCBI records, and DCI) is gathered. If the defendant's charge is an assault charge of any kind, then the alleged victim's name and phone number is gathered.
6. All information gathered from the defendant is verified through an outside reference that the defendant has given. Victims of an assaultive nature are personally contacted. If the defendant's information cannot be verified or if the victim cannot be reached (or states that they would be afraid for their safety if the defendant were to be released), then that defendant would not be eligible for the Pretrial Services Program.
7. If the defendant is on probation or parole, then that defendant's probation or parole officer must be contacted. If the officer does not recommend release or if they cannot be reached, then that defendant is not eligible for the Pretrial Services Program.

8. A weighted point scale is completed on each defendant. Points are given for the length of time the defendant has been in the area, for being employed and for having no criminal record. Points are subtracted for each felony or misdemeanor that the defendant has been convicted of in the past three years. Points are also deducted for each date that the defendant has been called and failed. Charges in which the defendant has not yet been to court or where there is no disposition on the AOC database are considered “pending charges”.
9. The staff maintains a list of defendants that are eligible for the Pretrial Services Program for first appearance bond review. The bond review is held at the Wake County Public Safety Center (jail)
10. The Judge decides whether or not to release the defendant into the Pretrial Services Program. If the Judge does release the defendant into the Program, then the defendant, the Judge, and a Pretrial staff person sign a contract in the courtroom, stating the conditions the defendant must follow while on the program. A copy of this contract is given to the defendant and a copy is stapled to the defendant’s blue sheet for further reference by court personnel.
11. The defendant is released from jail and has to follow all conditions of his/her Pretrial Services contract. Standard conditions of release are: 1) calling in each week to a caseworker, 2) remaining arrest-free, 3) showing up for all court dates, 4) not harassing, threatening, assaulting or having contact with the alleged victim, and 5) following any other conditions of release that the judge may order (i.e., curfew, obtaining a substance abuse assessment, continue counseling, ect.).
12. If the defendant violates any of his/her release conditions, the defendant’s caseworker will report this to the judge who released the defendant and the judge will decide whether or not to issue an order for arrest for the defendant. Once the order for arrest is issued, the defendant is terminated from the Pretrial Services Program as an unsuccessful termination. The defendant will not be eligible to be considered for the program for the next three years. **If the Order for Arrest for violation of release conditions is not served before the defendant’s court date and the case is disposed, then a recall order is issued.
13. If the defendant fails to appear in court on his/her court date, the Court will issue an Order For Arrest for the defendant and the defendant will be terminated from the Pretrial Release Program as an unsuccessful termination. The defendant will not be eligible to be considered for the program for the next three years.

If you have questions about the ReEntry Pretrial Services Program or you simply want to check the status of a defendant at the Wake County Public Safety Center please call Chuck Johnson, Program Director, at 919-856-5273.