

Juvenile Detention Screening Instruments: Determining Appropriate Placement for Young Offenders

by the Institute for Public Health and Justice



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Models for Change

Models for Change is an effort to create successful and replicable models of juvenile justice reform through targeted investments in key states, with core support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Models for Change seeks to accelerate progress toward a more effective, fair, and developmentally sound juvenile justice system that holds young people accountable for their actions, provides for their rehabilitation, protects them from harm, increases their life chances, and manages the risk they pose to themselves and the public. The initiative is underway in Illinois, Pennsylvania, Washington, and Louisiana.

Eight Principles of Models for Change: A Framework

Fundamental fairness

All system participants—including youthful offenders, their victims, and their families—deserve bias-free treatment.

Recognition of juvenile-adult differences

The system must take into account that juveniles are fundamentally and developmentally different from adults.

Recognition of individual differences

Juvenile justice decision makers must acknowledge and respond to individual differences in terms of young people's development, culture, gender, needs, and strengths.

Recognition of potential

Young offenders have strengths and are capable of positive growth. Giving up on them is costly for society. Investing in them makes sense.

Safety

Communities and individuals deserve to be and to feel safe.

Personal responsibility

Young people must be encouraged to accept responsibility for their actions and the consequences of those actions.

Community responsibility

Communities have an obligation to safeguard the welfare of children and young people, to support them when in need, and to help them grow into adults.

System responsibility

The juvenile justice system is a vital part of society's collective exercise of its responsibility toward young people. It must do its job effectively.

Louisiana Models for Change

Models for Change-supported reform efforts in Louisiana focus primarily on bringing about change in three areas: expanding alternatives to formal processing and secure confinement; increasing access to evidence-based services; and reducing disproportionate minority contact with the juvenile justice system. In addition, the initiative provides support for statewide efforts to ensure that work carried out at the local level through Models for Change is aligned with the state's goals for juvenile justice reform. Louisiana was the third of four states chosen to participate in the Models for Change initiative, including Pennsylvania, Illinois and Washington.

Assessment of risk is a critical and essential component of the juvenile justice process. Judgments about the level of risk of young offenders form the basis of many of the decisions made in the juvenile justice system (Lodewijks, Doreleijers, & DeRuiter, 2008). Risk assessments are used to predict future behavior such as the likelihood an individual will engage in future criminal activity, future violence, and failure to appear for court dates. Incorrect classification of youths can have negative implications for both the youth and the community. Under-prediction may result in others being harmed by allowing high-risk youth to be free in the community, while over-prediction interferes with the rights and freedoms of youth and increases the financial costs associated with unnecessary processing or confinement of juvenile offenders.

One place in the juvenile justice system where risk assessment has been the focus of great debate and concern is pretrial detention. Unlike the adjudicatory stage of court processing, the detention stage is traditionally void of strict substantive or procedural legal safeguards. In *Schall v. Martin* (1984), the Supreme Court approved pre-adjudication detention of juveniles based on the prediction of further law violations. As a result, all fifty states and the District of Columbia have preventive detention statutes which allow detention decisions to be based on assessments of a youth's risk for recidivism and dangerousness to the public. However, these statutes rarely provide specific criteria to make this prediction. This statutory vagueness may result in arbitrary decisions that may be based on legitimate factors such as prior record and seriousness of the offense or on extralegal factors such as race, gender, or socioeconomic status (Frazier & Bishop, 1985). Some scholars have argued that pretrial detention of juveniles involves greater abuses of law and power than any other aspect of the juvenile justice system (Bookin-Weiner, 1984; Triplet, 1978).

There is evidence to suggest that there are some serious long-term consequences of youth being held in detention, making it important that only those required for community safety are detained (Bishop & Frazier, 1988, 1992, 1996; Bortner & Reed, 1985; Frazier & Bishop, 1985; Johnson & Secret, 1995; Secret & Johnson, 1997; Wu, 1997). Youth who are detained are more likely to face formal processing and often receive more severe dispositions with sanctions lasting for longer periods of time than youth who are not detained. Decisions made early in the juvenile justice continuum are extremely important as they have the ability to thrust youth deeper into the system. Further, there is some evidence that detention decisions may be biased against minority youth and, thus, play an important role in the disproportionate minority contact (DMC) found in many juvenile justice systems. Thus, one potentially important way to reduce DMC is to develop standardized risk assessment instruments that can reduce the subjectivity in pre-adjudication detention decisions.

Detention Risk Assessment Instruments

Over the last few decades, research has led to the development of standardized risk assessment instruments designed to reduce racial, ethnic, and gender disparities and biases by increasing the consistency of risk assessment through a structured and objective process (Schwalbe et al., 2006). Most risk assessment instruments use empirically derived risk factors that are added together to produce a cumulative risk score. These scores are typically classified as low, medium, and high risk. These classifications correspond to an array of graduated sanctions and court interventions designed to prevent recidivism and protect public safety (Howell, 1995; 2003).

Detention risk assessment instruments evaluate arrested youth to determine the need for secure confinement prior to their adjudication hearing. These tools have been effective in reducing subjective and inappropriate decisions to incarcerate juvenile offenders prior to their adjudication hearing. They have also been effective in controlling admissions to secure detention by reducing unnecessary or inappropriate secure confinement and reducing overcrowding to improve conditions, while reducing government costs and liabilities (Hoytt, Schiraldi, Smith, & Zeidenberg, 2002; Schwartz, et al., 1991; Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, 2004). Objective risk assessments have also been shown to reduce rates of minority confinement, relative to unstructured judgments, in a number of jurisdictions across the country (Hoytt et al., 2002).

Some key principles associated with detention screening instruments include objectivity, uniformity, and risk-based assessment (Steinhart, 2006). There are two specific risks addressed by these instruments. The first is public safety risk which is described as the risk of criminal behavior prior to adjudication and disposition of the case. The second is failure to appear (FTA) risk which is the risk of “failing to appear in court” following an arrest. Detention screening instruments are time-linked and therefore designed to guide an administrative custody decision covering the time period between arrest and adjudication. At adjudication and disposition, the court assumes control of the case and becomes directly responsible for the minor’s future custody status (Steinhart, 2006).

Detention screening instruments are typically locally designed, and vary across jurisdictions; however, each is rooted in the same principles of objectivity, uniformity, and risk-based assessment (Steinhart, 2006). Detention instruments may be completed by police officers or detention center intake staff. The risk instrument is a written checklist of criteria that are applied to youth on specific recidivism and public safety-related factors. The overall risk score then guides the decision to detain or release the youth.

Nature of the alleged offense and delinquency history are the two core risk factors used to assess need for placement in secure detention. Local jurisdictions may also consider additional risk factors such as aggravating and mitigating factors. Detention tools typically use a point scale where points are assigned for each risk factor to produce a total risk score which is linked to an outcome. Low scores indicate that the youth should be released; scores in a middle range indicate a detention alternative may be appropriate; scores above the cutoff value indicate the need for secure placement. Cut off scores are established after careful consideration of point totals assigned for individual risk factors. Normally, the cutoff score will mirror the number of points assigned to serious/violent crimes for which secure detention is essentially automatic. For example, if the serious/violent crime score is 15, the detention cut off score will also be 15. Additionally, overrides may be built into the instrument to accommodate the needs of the community. An override is a decision to detain or release a youth, although the decision is not warranted based on the risk score from the screening tool. Examples of overrides may include the decision to detain youth who commit a new offense while on probation regardless of the risk score.

Studies have concluded that the use of a structured detention risk assessment instrument improves reliability, as compared to subjective judgment and discretion (Schwalbe et al., 2004; Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, 2004). These studies have also found that risk scores calculated through objective screening instruments were significantly correlated with recidivism and failure to appear in court. Thus, existing evidence suggests that structured detention screening instruments have the ability to improve risk prediction without increasing the threat to public safety.

The Use of Detention Risk Assessment in Two Louisiana Parishes

Under the Louisiana Children's Code, juveniles who are alleged to have committed a delinquent offense or who meet other criteria specified under Article 737 can be placed in a secure detention facility prior to adjudication. Pre-dispositional detention refers to juveniles being detained prior to a finding of guilt or innocence and/or prior to the judicial process of determining the final disposition of their case. Being placed in detention means a loss of liberty for the juvenile and its use is ideally limited to youth who pose a significant risk to public safety or who are at risk for failure to appear in court.

Although the use of pre-trial detention is available statewide, there are 17 detention centers throughout the state of Louisiana. The state is broken down into 64 parishes and 42 judicial districts. Thus, every juvenile justice system in the state are not in close proximity to a juvenile detention facility and even fewer jurisdictions operate a juvenile intake facility (less than five parishes) where all arrested youths are transported for screening and assessment procedures. Furthermore, some parishes that do have a detention center are very large, which also makes transporting every arrested juvenile to a detention center for processing difficult and time-consuming. As a result, the procedures involved in the development and use of a detention screening instrument need to be structured around the existing resources available in each parish.

Regardless of the resources available, the major goals of the instrument remain the same across parishes. These goals include: 1) protecting public safety, 2) objective pre-trial detention decision making, and 3) reducing disproportionate minority contact (DMC). The differences relate to the policies governing the completion of the instrument including who is responsible for conducting the screening process, which arrested juveniles are screened, time frame(s) surrounding completion, and scoring of certain offender characteristics based on the needs of each particular jurisdiction. Below is a summary of the development and implementation of a detention screening instrument, policies and procedures governing the use of the tool, trends in detention admissions pre- and post-detention screening instrument, and a brief statement on the lessons learned in two parishes involved in the Louisiana Models for Change Program, funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Rapides Parish Detention Screening Instrument (DSI)

Rapides Parish is located in central Louisiana with a population of approximately 135,000 residents and a youth population of 17,500 youth between the ages of 10 and 17 (US Census Bureau, 2010). The parish does have a local detention center (Renaissance Detention Center), but there is not a centralized intake facility that is responsible for processing all arrested juveniles. As a result, law enforcement officers and probation staff are required to make the decision to detain a juvenile, place them on an alternative to detention (e.g., electronic monitoring), or release the juvenile to a responsible adult. These decisions are often made in the field during initial contact with the juvenile. Prior to the development of the DSI, there were no policies in place for objectively making this decision. Law enforcement officers and probation staff made the decision to detain on a case by case basis. Thus, a great deal of discretion was used when making pre-trial detention decisions.

The DSI was created in 2008 under the leadership of the Rapides Parish Department of Juvenile Services, in partnership with local law enforcement authorities and the Center for Children's Law and Policy (CCLP). At least one representative from each of the primary local law enforcement agencies was intensively involved in the development and implementation of the DSI (i.e., Pineville Police Department, Rapides Parish Sheriff's Office, Ball Police Department, and Alexandria Police Department). The process for developing the DSI started by inviting the juvenile judge, all of the law enforcement agencies in the parish, assistant district attorney, defense counsel, juvenile justice probation department, and other juvenile justice professionals to meet to discuss the process and the ultimate development of the DSI. Meetings were held for five months before the DSI was finalized on July 17, 2008. Site visits were made to Jefferson and Calcasieu parishes to gather information on the development of the detention screening instrument used in each parish as well as meeting with their stakeholders who were involved in the process.

Public safety was the paramount concern of the committee members. The goal of the DSI was to serve as an objective measure of a youth's threat to public safety and need for secure placement. Another primary goal of the DSI was to reduce DMC in Rapides Parish.

A copy of the DSI is presented in Appendix A. The DSI assigns numerical values for the most serious current offense, additional offenses, prior criminal history, history of failing to appear, history of escape or runaway, and aggravating factors. Points are subtracted for mitigating factors. The DSI also includes a list of mandatory and administrative overrides. The six main sections include:

Section 1. Most serious current offense broken down by:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Category A. | Very Violent Felonies = detain |
| Category B. | Felony Narcotics = 7 points |
| Category C. | Other Felonies = 6 points |
| Category D. | Major Misdemeanors = 5 points |
| Category E. | Other Misdemeanors = 3 points |
| Category F. | Violation of Probation or Contempt of Court with New Offense = detain |
| Category G. | Violation of Probation Technical Offense = detain |

Section 2. Additional Serious Current Offenses (same categories as above)

Section 3. Additional Current Offenses

- A. Two or more additional current felony offenses = 4 points
- B. One additional current felony offense = 3 points
- C. One or more additional misdemeanors OR violation(s) of probation/parole = 2 points
- D. One or more status offenses OR no additional current offense = 0 points

Section 4. Prior Criminal History

- A. Two or more arrests for Category A offenses = 6 points
- B. One arrest for Category A offenses = 4 points
- C. Two or more prior arrests for any other felonies = 3 points
- D. One prior felony arrest for a Category B through Category F offenses = 2 points
- E. One or more misdemeanors arrests = 1 point
- F. No prior arrests = 0 points

Section 5. History of Failure to Appear (FTA) (within past 12 months)

- A. Two or more warrants/detention orders for FTA = 3 points
- B. One warrant/detention order for FTA = 1 point
- C. No warrant/detention order for FTA = 0 points

Section 6. History of Escape/Runaway (within past 12 months)

- A. One or more documented escapes from secure confinement or custody = 4 points
- B. Two or more instances of absconding from non-secure placement = 3 points
- C. Three or more runaways from home = 1 point
- D. No history = points

In addition to the six main categories, the DSI also includes a section for aggravating and mitigating factors. Aggravating factors include significant mental health issues, significant substance abuse issues, minor is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, juvenile is a considerable flight risk and/or pending investigation of additional offenses, juvenile has been released from detention within 30 days, and/or the juvenile is currently on probation or electronic monitoring. Each of these circumstances is worth one point each. A maximum of three points can be added to the overall score for aggravating factors.

Mitigating factors include active case with the Office of Mental Health (OMH) or the Office of Children's Services (OCS), minimal involvement in offense, willing/able parents available to provide appropriate supervision, the juvenile is younger than 12 years old, and/or the juvenile does not have a prior criminal record. Each of these circumstances is worth the subtraction of one point from the overall score. A maximum of three points can be subtracted from the score.

The final section of the DSI involves mandatory and administrative overrides. Mandatory overrides involve circumstances in which the juvenile must be detained. These include:

- Use/Possession of a firearm during the offense
- Escape from secure custody
- Taken into custody via extradition
- Juvenile is on electronic monitoring during the time of the offense
- Arrested on "JU" or drug court docketed contempt of court (i.e., delinquency matters)

Points totaling 13 or above or an automatic detain indicate that the youth should be placed in secure detention until the youth can be seen by the judge. Totals of 8-12 indicate that the youth should be involved in a detention alternative. Three alternatives to detention are used in Rapides Parish: electronic monitoring, shadow tracking (random phone calls to home throughout day/night), and intensive supervision (house arrest). Totals of seven points or less indicate that the youth should be released.

The DSI is designed to be completed by a juvenile detective once an arrest is made by field law enforcement officer or by parish/state probation staff when detaining a juvenile already under supervision. Thus, the completion of the DSI is only required when a request for detention is made. Prior to the completion of a DSI, the arresting officer shall make a determination that the juvenile meets criteria for pretrial detention as established in Article 737A. This article mandates that, when taken into custody, the child shall be placed in the least restrictive pre-hearing placement consistent with the child's need for protection or control.

When completing the DSI, staff members are required to complete the identifying information on the top of the form, select the most appropriate response for each of the identified items on the form including the six main items and any aggravating or mitigating circumstances. Staff members are also required to consider mandatory and administrative overrides before making a final pre-trial detention decision. Information regarding most items (i.e., prior history, current status) on the instrument requires access to the AS400, the primary data base used by the Rapides Parish Clerk of Court. Staff members are expected to make a good faith effort in researching available information through AS400 and all other available resources (e.g., probation files). As a result, below is a list of steps outlining the procedures for completing the DSI after it has been determined that the juvenile meets Article 737A criteria.

1. When detention is requested during regular office hours by law enforcement, another arresting agency, probation staff, or when the staff performing the intake feels detention may be warranted, the DSI is completed prior to making a decision. During regular office hours, access to the necessary information to complete the DSI is available (e.g., AS400 data base).
2. If detention is requested after regular office hours by law enforcement or probation staff, the DSI is not completed at the time of arrest because the arresting officer/probation officer does not have access to all information necessary to complete the form (e.g., access to AS400 for prior offense information). In these circumstances, the decision to detain is based on the current offense, any necessary overrides, and all other available information. If the DSI cannot be completed at the time of an on-call intake as described in Section A, it is completed on the next business day. If the on-call intake resulted in the juvenile's being detained, the instrument must be completed prior to the detention hearing.
3. When a petition is filed for a juvenile alleged to have committed a felony against a person, as defined by the Category A offenses on the DSI, a DSI must be filled out in accordance with the policies outlined above (1 and 2).

While it is expected that the indicated decision on the DSI will be followed in the majority of decisions, it is recognized that there will be occasions which require the calculated risk score to be overridden, to either a more or less secure/restrictive outcome. The rules governing overrides include:

- a. Discretionary overrides require the approval of the arresting agency juvenile supervisor or probation supervisor. This includes both aggravating and mitigating discretionary overrides.
- b. If the discretionary override results in a juvenile being detained, the arresting officer has explored and ruled out all reasonable alternatives to secure detention and is required to document such activities in the appropriate record.
- c. If placement in a detention alternative is the decision indicated by the instrument, but no alternative is currently available, the arresting agency uses their discretion in placing the juvenile in detention or releasing the juvenile, giving due consideration for public safety and the safety of the juvenile.

Once the DSI is completed, it is sent to the intake probation officer. The intake probation officer reviews the DSI for accuracy and makes six copies of the final DSI. Each copy is incorporated into an “intake package” which includes a copy of the court intake form, detention intake sheet, and a list of prior offenses obtained from the AS400 system. The judge, IDB attorney, assistant district attorney, director of probation services, intake probation supervisor, and DMC coordinator are each given a copy of the “intake package” prior to the initial show cause hearing. During detention hearings, if the judge asks for a recommendation regarding detention, the results of the DSI are considered by the district attorney and defense attorney when making their detention recommendation. All completed DSIs are entered into an excel spreadsheet by the DMC coordinator. This data is used to monitor the use of the DSI, DMC, and trends in detention admissions.

Validation of the DSI. The Rapides Parish Court requested that the University of New Orleans (UNO) conduct an evaluation of the DSI, as part of its role in the Louisiana Models for Change project. The juvenile court was most interested in learning if the DSI is a better predictor of a youth’s threat to public safety and need for secure placement than the subjective decision-making procedures that were previously employed by law enforcement. Local authorities wanted to test whether the use of the DSI would reduce secure placements, particularly for minority youth.

UNO conducted an evaluation of the use of the DSI in Rapides Parish from August 2008 to October 2008. During this time frame, the participating agencies completed a DSI on 81% (n=164) of the eligible cases during the study period; 38 DSI’s were not completed by law enforcement during the evaluation period. A summary of the key findings is below:

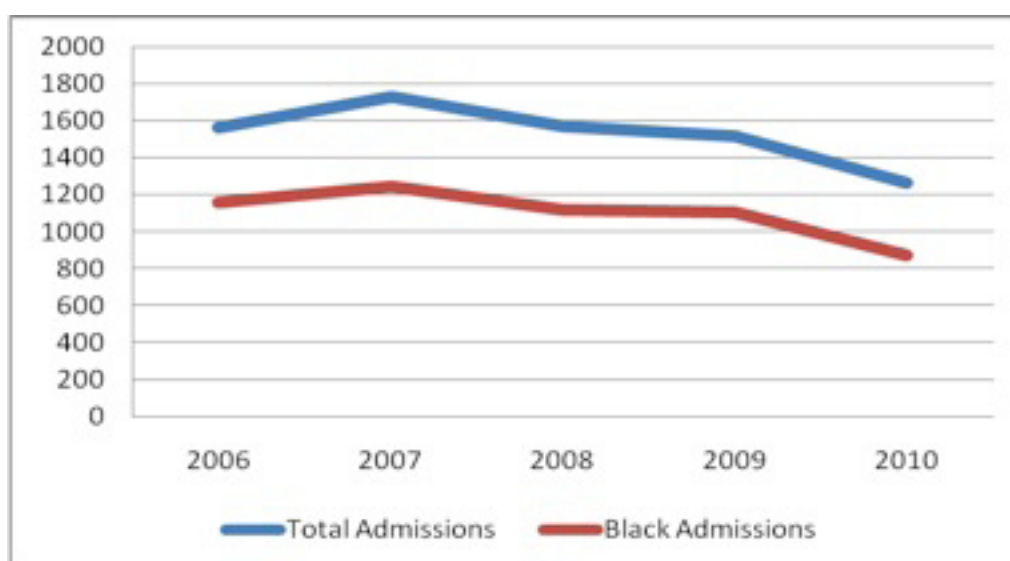
- Youth whose DSI scores were in the alternative (8-12) and secure (13+) ranges were significantly more likely to have prior criminal involvement than youth who had lower scores. Also, youth with scores in the alternative range were more likely to have been on probation or parole at the time of the offense than youth scoring below this range.
- The DSI was highly associated with law enforcement’s judgment of the child’s threat to public safety and need for secure placement. Thus, the DSI does reflect what local law enforcement officers view as important criteria for detaining youth. When law enforcement judgment and the DSI disagreed on the need for secure placement, it did not appear to be due to differences in race or gender but in a greater emphasis of law enforcement on felony offenses and a greater emphasis of the DSI on violent offenses.

- A comparison of youth detained using the DSI during the evaluation period with youth detained during the same time period in 2007 revealed a significantly lower percentage of African Americans (2007=82%, 2008=50%) and youth detained for felony offenses (2007=52%, 2008=22%) during the period that the DSI was used. There were no significant differences in the rates of detained boys or violent offenders.

As can be seen, the result of UNO's validation study supported the full implementation and consistent use of the DSI in Rapides Parish. The use of the DSI seemed to reflect law enforcement's perception a juvenile's threat to public safety and reduced DMC in detention.

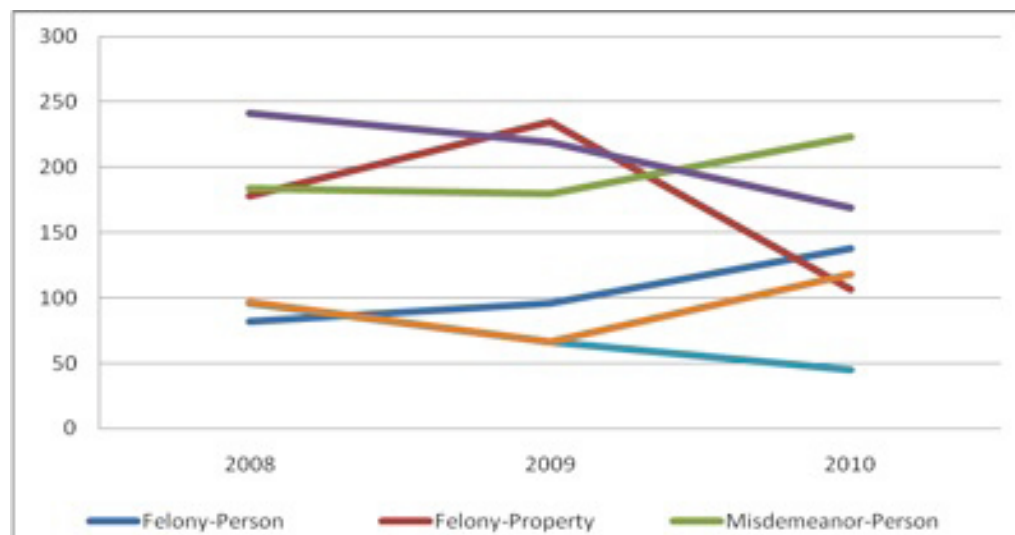
Trends in Admissions to Renaissance Detention Center in Rapides Parish. As illustrated in Figure 1, since 2006, there has been a gradual decline in admissions to local detention in Rapides Parish. From 2006-2010, total admissions to local detention declined by 31%. Similarly, during the same time period, black admissions to local detention also declined by 31%.

Figure 1. Trends in Admissions to Renaissance Detention Center



As illustrated in Figure 2, admissions for public safety offenses, such as violent felonies, have increased from 2006-2010, while admissions for non-serious offenses including misdemeanors and status offenses have declined. The largest decline for admissions to detention for misdemeanors and status offenses occurred from 2007-2008 (violent misdemeanors: 2007=31, 2008=15; non-violent misdemeanors: 2007=36, 2008=11; FINS: 2007=6, 2008=1). The DSI was implemented in July of 2008.

Figure 2: Trends in Offense Severity of Admissions to Detention



* VF = Violent Felony, NVF = Non-Violent Felony, VM = Violent Misdemeanors, NVM = Non-Violent Misdemeanor, FINS = Status Offense, NC = Non-Criminal Offense (e.g., contempt, VOP)

It is important to note that these data cannot be used to conclusively show that the implementation of the DSI caused these trends displayed above. A great deal of reform efforts have occurred (and are currently underway) in the Rapides Parish Juvenile Justice System over the past several years. At the same time, additional policy and procedure changes have occurred at the detention center during this time frame. Thus, a range of different factors may have contributed to the decline in detention admissions. However, it can be concluded that since the development and implementation of the DSI, overall detention admissions, admissions of minority youth, and admissions for non-serious offenses have substantially declined in Rapides Parish.

Lessons Learned from the Field. A major challenge to the implementation of the DSI in Rapides Parish was convincing stakeholders that completing a standardized screening instrument was worthwhile in a rural jurisdiction where officers felt they knew many youth well enough to make appropriate detention decisions. “In a community where law enforcement officers were frustrated with seeing the same youth come through the system, it was a challenge to change their mindset and get them to look at the situation differently” said Sylvia Singleton, DMC coordinator in Rapides Parish.

However, after witnessing the significant reduction in detention admissions, without a reduction in the number of youth detained for violent offenses, the importance of the tool became more apparent to stakeholders and community members. As time goes on, stakeholders are still critiquing the instrument. Rapides officials, including law enforcement and probation services, continue to train and re-train law enforcement officers on the consistent use of the DSI, as well as provide quarterly data on the effectiveness of the tool. Both Singleton and Larry Spottsville, Director of Rapides Parish Probation Services, point out that “keeping stakeholders engaged is not always easy, but it’s critical to ensuring that the use of the DSI is sustainable. Over the three years since the DSI was implemented, the Rapides Parish Department of Juvenile Services has experienced important achievements in building DMC data collection, improved relations with law enforcement and probation staff, and cultural changes that focus on fairness and equity to all youth in Rapides Parish.”

Jefferson Parish Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI)

Jefferson Parish is located in southeast Louisiana with a population of approximately 440,000 residents and a juvenile population of 45,000 youth between the ages of 10 and 17 (US Census Bureau, 2010). The parish has a local detention center (Rivarde Detention Center) which is operated by the Jefferson Parish Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) and an intake processing center (Juvenile Intake Center) operated by the Jefferson Parish Sheriff’s Office (JPSO). All youth arrested in Jefferson Parish are transported to the Juvenile Intake Center (JIC) for intake processing which includes physical booking and fingerprinting. JPSO officers on duty at the JIC are responsible for making the decision to detain a juvenile, place them on an alternative to detention (e.g., electronic monitoring), or release the juvenile to a responsible adult.

Prior to the development of the DAI, JPSO officers at the JIC used a “decision tree” to facilitate the decision to detain. This decision tree incorporated information from the youth’s arrest report, offending history, and intake interview. The decision tree was a yes-no flow chart that measured whether the youth 1) met criteria for the Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP); 2) whether there were multiple victims, multiple offenses against the same victim(s), and/or serious injury to the victim(s); 3) the role of the youth in the crime (e.g., whether he or she was the principle offender); 4) whether the youth had three or more previous FINS petitions; and 5) whether the incident involved domestic violence or large amounts of illegal drugs.

(SHOCAP); 2) whether there were multiple victims, multiple offenses against the same victim(s), and/or serious injury to the victim(s); 3) the role of the youth in the crime (e.g., whether he or she was the principle offender); 4) whether the youth had three or more previous FINS petitions; and 5) whether the incident involved domestic violence or large amounts of illegal drugs.

The Jefferson Parish Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI) was developed over a period of several months in late 2007 and early 2008 with guidance from and the approval of the Jefferson Parish Children and Youth Planning Board (CYPB), the Executive Committee of the CYPB, the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Subcommittee of the CYPB, and the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Subcommittee of the CYPB. These committees were comprised of members of local law enforcement agencies, legal experts, judges, parish detention experts, and juvenile mental health experts among others. All committees are dedicated to implementing juvenile justice reform. They received much assistance from national experts from the W. Haywood Burns Institute and the Center for Children's Law and Policy as well as funding and expertise from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Louisiana Models for Change program (LA MfC) and from the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI).

The DAI is intended to measure the likelihood of a juvenile arrestee to re-offend before the first subsequent court date (in the interest of public safety) and the likelihood of the juvenile to fail to appear (FTA) in court for the first subsequent court date. It is assumed that after the first appearance in court, the judge, in consultation with other experts such as District Attorney Office representatives, Public Defender's Office representatives (and probation officers and mental health experts when relevant), will be able to make a more informed decision about the likelihood of the juvenile to fail to appear to court or to re-offend before the next court appearance.

A copy of the DAI is provided in Appendix B. The DAI is comprised of items measuring current offenses, prior arrest history, history of failure to appear to court, and history of runaway and escape. The items are weighted most heavily on the current offenses but take into consideration prior arrests, with FTA and runaway/escape history weighted the least. Similar to the DSI in Rapides Parish, the DAI assigns a numerical value to each section depending on severity. This score indicates whether a juvenile will be released to a responsible adult/guardian, placed on an alternative to detention, or placed in secure detention. There are five main sections to Jefferson Parish's DAI:

Section 1. Most Serious Current Offense:

- Category A. "Very" violent offense against persons = 17 points
- Category B. "Other assaultive/violent" offense against persons = 14 points
- Category C. Felony narcotics = 7 points
- Category D. Other felonies = 6 points
- Category E. Major misdemeanors against persons = 5
- Category F. Other misdemeanors = 3 points
- Category G. Violation of probation or Contempt of Court = 2 points

Section 2. Additional Current Offenses

- A. Two or more additional current felonies = 5 points
- B. One additional current felony offense = 4 points
- C. One or more additional misdemeanor or violation of probation/parole = 3 points
- D. One or more status offenses or no additional current offense = 0 points

Section 3. Prior Criminal History

- A. Two or more arrests for a Cat. A or Cat. B offense = 6 points
- B. One arrest for a Cat. A or Cat. B Offense = 4 points
- C. Two or more prior arrests for any felonies = 3 points
- D. One prior felony arrest = 2 points
- E. One or more misdemeanor arrests = 1 points
- F. No prior arrests = 0 points

Section 4. History of Failure to Appear (past 12 months)

- A. Two or more warrants/detention orders for FTA = 3 points
- B. One warrant/detention order for FTA = 1 point
- C. No warrant/detention order for FTA = 0 points

Section 5. History of Escape/Runaway (past 12 months)

- A. One or more documented escapes from secure confinement or custody = 4 points
- B. Two or more instances of absconding from non-secure placement = 3 points
- C. Three or more runaways from home = 1 point
- D. No history = 0 points

In the previous version of the DAI, two additional sections allowed for the consideration of aggravating and/or mitigating factors. Aggravating factors included significant mental health issues, significant substance abuse issues, minor under the influence of drugs or alcohol, juvenile is considered a flight risk, juvenile has been released from detention within the past 30 days, and the juvenile is currently on probation. Each aggravating factor added one additional point to the overall score. A maximum of two points could be added to the overall score for aggravating circumstances. Mitigating factors included no prior criminal record, the juvenile is less than 12 years old, involvement in current offense was minimal, and the guardian is able and willing to provide appropriate supervision. Each mitigating factor subtracts one point from the overall score. A maximum of two points could be subtracted due to mitigating circumstances. These two factors were taken out of the DAI in November of 2010 by vote of the JDAI Subcommittee. Data over the past two years showed that each factor affected the detention decision on youth less than 1% of the time and were very subjective in nature. In the original inception of the DAI, the aggravating and mitigating factors were added to account for extenuating circumstances which are now currently accounted for through the overrides listed below.

The last section of the DAI lists mandatory and administrative overrides. Mandatory overrides are circumstances that require the youth be detained. These include:

- Use/Possession of a firearm during current offense
- Escape from secure custody
- Taken into custody via extradition or is a fugitive from another jurisdiction
- Juvenile is on electronic monitoring at time of offense or is already in secure custody
- Juvenile is currently on parole
- Juvenile is arrested on "JU" or court docketed contempt of court or an officer's warrant
- Juvenile identified as a Code 6J (serious habitual offender) by JPSO

Administrative overrides require the approval of the JPSO supervisor on duty. If approved, they allow for the youth to be detained, regardless of the overall DAI score. Administrative overrides include:

- Parent, guardian, or responsible relative cannot be located
- Parent, guardian refuses/unable to take custody of juvenile
- Additional reason documented by JPSO officer

The lowest possible score a juvenile can receive is 2 and the highest possible score is 35. The lower scores (2-9) indicate that the juvenile is very likely to appear in court and very unlikely to re-offend before the first subsequent court date. Midrange scores (10-14) suggest the appropriate decision would be an alternative form of custody. A score of 15 or higher suggests that secure detention is needed. Thus, youth scoring 9 or below are released to a parent/guardian, youth scoring between 10-14 are placed on an alternative to detention (ATD), and youth scoring 15 or higher are placed in secure detention until a show cause hearing (must be held within 72 hours of confinement). The ATDs currently used in Jefferson Parish are pre-trial supervision, Trackers (i.e., home detention without electronic monitoring), electronic monitoring, and GPS monitoring.

Process/Procedures for Completing the DAI. Every juvenile arrested in Jefferson Parish is transported to the JIC for screening and intake processing. One component of the intake screening process is the completion of the DAI. The DAI is filled out by a JPSO officer on duty. The DAI is completed on every youth brought into the JIC. Once the DAI is completed, JPSO keeps a copy for their records and one copy is forwarded to the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) and entered into the DAI records. This information is then analyzed on a quarterly basis by DJS staff to monitor the use of overrides, DMC, and that the appropriate decisions are being made. The JPSO officer completing the DAI is meant to take the place of the judge making the decision to detain. Therefore, the DAI is not provided to the judge, DA, or defender during detention hearings.

Validation of the DAI. Following the development of the DAI, the reliability and validity of the tool was examined prior to full implementation. To test for reliability, an inter-rater reliability test was performed. Two officers from the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office (JPSO) at the Juvenile Intake Center (JIC) who routinely manage the intake of juvenile arrestees (one from the AM shift, one from the PM shift) were given the same set of 60 Juvenile Arrest Reports (JARs) and corresponding criminal history information. The officers were asked to complete the DAIs based on these documents. Fifty-six of the 60 DAIs were completed by both officers. The results indicated that the total score from instrument is highly reliable (ICC = 0.885). Of the completed DAIs, 42.9% had perfect (100%) agreement, 76.8% differed by one point or were in perfect agreement, 80.4% differed by two points or less or perfectly agreed, and 87.5% differed by three points or less or perfectly agreed.

To examine the validity of the DAI, two separate tests were performed. First, a sample of DAIs dating from September 18, 2007 to February 8, 2008 were completed by JPSO personnel at the JIC and entered into a database. The total score on the DAI was recorded, and the actual decision (release or detain) made by the JPSO decision tree was also recorded. The sample was restricted to only those who were indicated by the DAI for release and were actually released either immediately within the statutory 72-hour time limit. This was done so that released arrestees had a true opportunity to re-offend or to FTA. The DAI indicated 405 releases that were in fact given liberty to re-offend or FTA, while the decision tree actually released 346 youths.

Sixty days after the last released arrestee in the sample was arrested, the number of juveniles who re-offended and/or failed to appear was collected. A comparison of the actual decision tree outcomes and the theoretical DAI outcomes revealed the following: both had a very acceptable FTA rate, 4.3% for the decision tree and 4.7% for the DAI. Most importantly, the decision tree had a 9.25% re-offense rate of released arrestees and the DAI had a 7.9% re-offense rate.

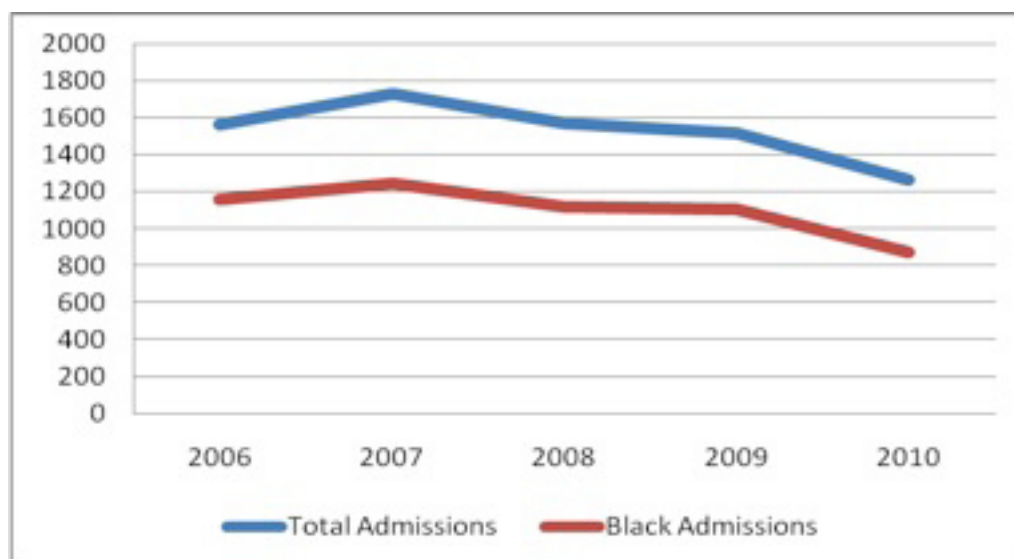
Results indicated that, if in use, the DAI would have detained only 112 youth while the decision tree actually detained 296. Therefore, in comparison to the decision tree, the DAI would have released more arrestees who were not in need of detention, reducing expensive and inappropriate detentions by 62%. The DAI would have also lowered the re-offense rate by 14% compared to the decision tree re-offense rate. Thus, the DAI would release fewer re-offenders than the decision tree (increasing public safety) while releasing many more juveniles who were not in need of detention.

A second type of validity assessment was conducted to empirically determine if the DAI is capable of identifying those who are appropriate for detention and identifying those that should be released. This assessment method was employed by having local experts from law enforcement and detention code JARs and corresponding information. Every effort was made by JPSO staff to include a wide variety of severity among the offenders selected for the Detainable group ranging from the clearly dangerous to the merely troubled and in need of detention. The Releasable Group was similarly selected with a wide range of offenses. The Detainable Group averaged a DAI score of 11.85 which was significantly higher than the Releasable Group's average score of 6.84. These results suggest that, in all likelihood, the group scores are higher for the Detainable Group because the DAI is capable of identifying and distinguishing between youth who are in need of detention and those who are not in need of confinement.

This validation process supports the reliability and validity of the DAI by concluding that the implementation of the DAI would result in fewer re-offenders being released which would improve public safety while also releasing more juveniles not in need of detention. This would reduce both preventable personal trauma among low-risk juveniles and undue public expense.

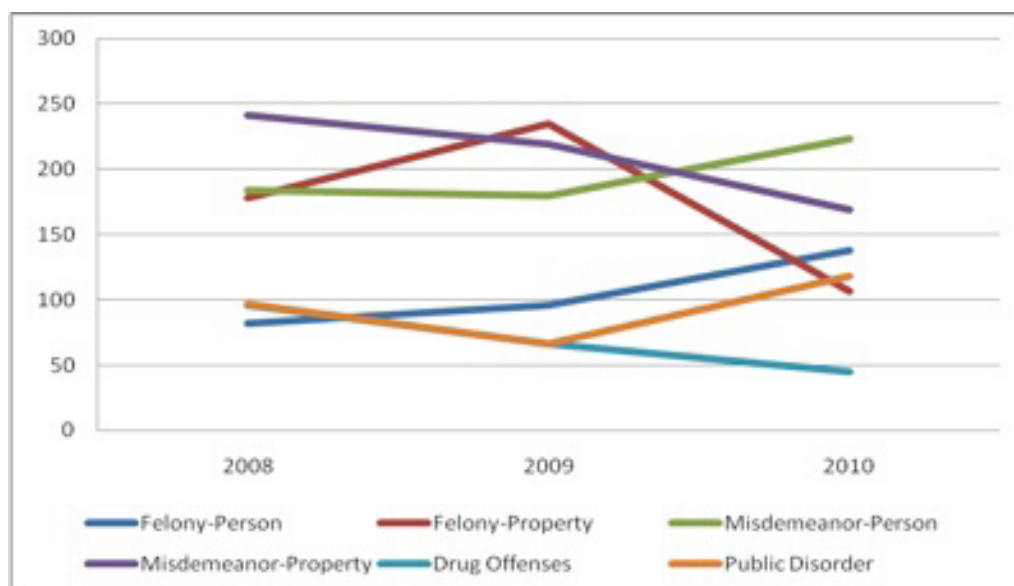
Trends in Admissions to Rivarde Detention Center in Jefferson Parish. As illustrated in Figure 3, since 2007, there has been a gradual decline in admission to local detention in Jefferson Parish. From 2006-2010, total admissions to local detention declined by 19%. Similarly, during the same time period, black admissions to local detention declined by 24%.

Figure 3. Trends in Admissions to Rivarde Detention Center



As illustrated in Figure 4, admissions for public safety offenses, such as violent felonies, have increased from 2008-2010, while admissions for non-serious offenses including non-violent felonies and misdemeanors and drug offenses have declined over the three-year period.

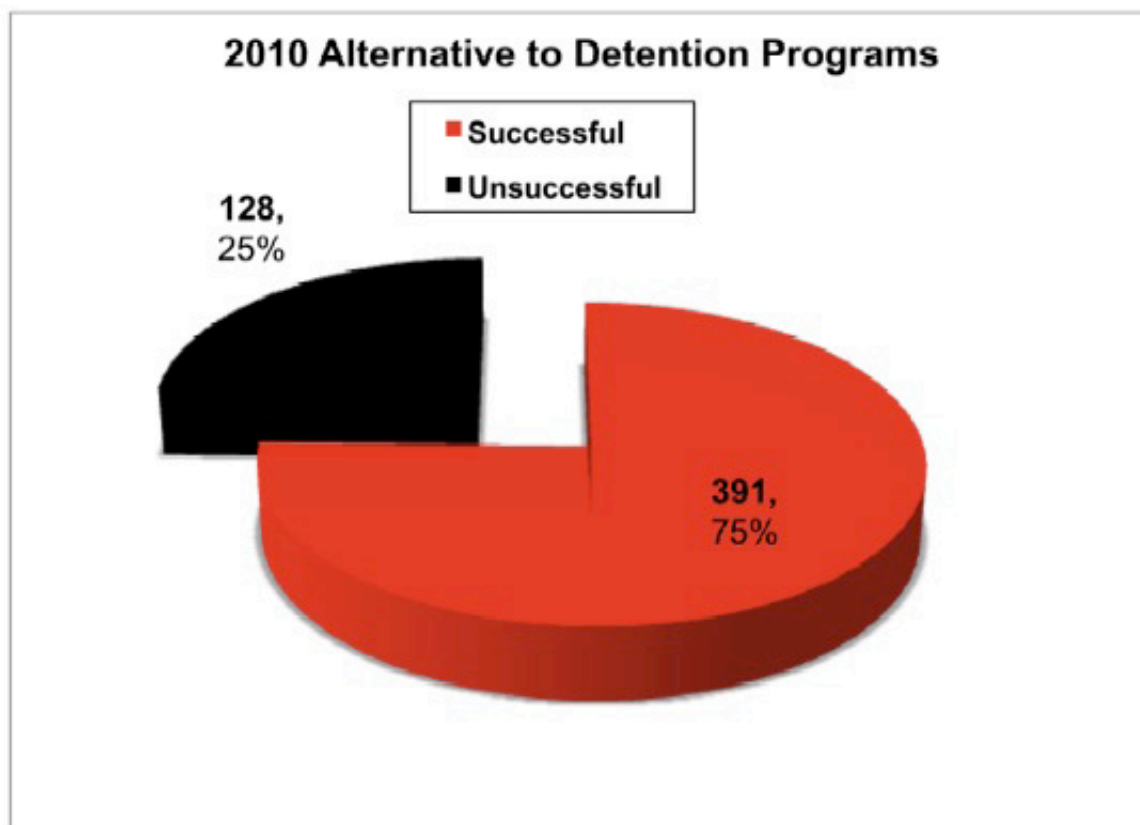
Figure 4: Trends in Offense Severity of Admissions to Detention in Jefferson Parish



It is important to note that there has been a great deal of reform efforts currently underway in the Jefferson Parish Juvenile Justice System over this time period (i.e., 2006-2010). At the same time, additional policy and procedure changes have occurred at the detention center during this time frame. For example, as Figure 5 illustrates, Jefferson Parish has demonstrated successful implementation and use of ATDs. In 2010, 75% of youth placed on an alternative to detention (i.e., scored between 10-14) did not commit a new offense and showed up for their court date. Thus, a range of different factors may have contributed to the decline in detention admissions. Nevertheless, the data reported in this section indicated that, since the implementation of the DAI, overall detention admissions and admissions of minority youth have declined, while admissions for serious, violent offenses have increased in Jefferson Parish.

For example, as Figure 5 illustrates, Jefferson Parish has demonstrated successful implementation and use of alternatives to detention. In 2010, 75% of youth placed on an alternative to detention (i.e., scored between 10-14 on the DAI) did not commit a new offense and showed up for their court date. Thus, a range of different factors may have contributed to the decline in detention admissions. Nevertheless, the data reported in this section indicated that, since the implementation of the DAI, overall detention admissions and admissions of minority youth have declined, while admissions for serious, violent offenses have increased in Jefferson Parish.

Figure 5. 2010 Alternatives to Detention Success Rate



Lessons Learned from the Field. The Jefferson Parish Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) strongly believes that the combination of several factors is what made the implementation of the DAI a success. Most importantly, communication and collaboration among a range of different agencies was critical to the implementation of the DAI. As mentioned above, before the development of the DAI, law enforcement was already using their own decision tree to make detention decisions. Therefore, having them switch over to a new instrument in the course of the reform work was a challenge. However, law enforcement was always at the table not only in committee meetings but also in informal work groups during the development of the DAI. Law enforcement and DJS, along with various other agencies including the District Attorney and juvenile judge(s), are responsible for the development, implementation, and continued success of the DAI. A key component to the success of the DAI is a sense of ownership from all juvenile justice agencies. Thus, instead of the DAI being only a “DJS screening tool”, it is considered a “Jefferson Parish screening tool”. As a result, law enforcement at the intake center has been consistently using the DAI since September 2008 and overrides have been kept to a minimum.

Another key aspect to the success of the DAI is the continual monitoring of the effectiveness of the DAI through data collection and validity checks. DJS has used the data collected through the DAI to monitor trends in DMC, the most common offenses resulting in detention, neighborhoods where arrests are occurring, and the use of overrides. Through these efforts, the structure of the DAI has also been altered in response to the information that the data has provided (e.g., deletion of aggravating/mitigating factors). Thus, DJS is fully committed to continually using the DAI to make detention decisions, but at the same time, is also fully committed to using data collected from the DAI to identify areas of reform both within the screening tool itself and in the juvenile justice system as a whole.

Conclusion

As evidenced in Jefferson and Rapides parishes, the adoption of an objective screening tool for pre-trial detention decisions can be an effective. Although these jurisdictions differ in the policies and procedures governing pretrial detention decisions and the administration and uses of the tool, the development and implementation of the screening tool produced the same results: increased public safety, objective and consistent decision-making, cost-savings by reducing unnecessary detainments, and reductions in disproportionate minority contact. It is clear that the development and implementation of the screening tool used in both parishes was not an easy task. However, through collaborations among several juvenile justice agencies, patience, and continual data collection and monitoring, both parishes have developed a model system for making pre-trial detention decisions.

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Appendix A- Rapides Parish Detention Screening Instrument (DSI)

RAPIDES PARISH JUVENILE DETENTION SCREENING INSTRUMENT			
Juvenile – Last Name: _____		First Name: _____	DOB: ____/____/____
		Intake	Intake
Ethnicity: _____	Race: _____	Male / Female	Date: ____/____/____ Time: ____ (Military Hours)
Screener: _____		Completed as Part of Detention Decision: <input type="checkbox"/> Completed as Follow-Up: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Arresting Agency: _____		Arrest Date: ____/____/____	Arrest Time: ____ (Military Hours)
SELECT ONLY ONE CHOICE PER SECTION			
			Score
SECTION 1. Most Serious Current Offense (See reverse for examples of offenses in each category)			
Category A: "Very Violent" or Other "Assaultive/Violent" offense against persons			Detain
Category B: Felony narcotics			7
Category C: Other felonies			6
Category D: Major misdemeanors against persons			5
Category E: Other misdemeanors			3
Category F: Violation of probation or Contempt of Court order			2
SECTION 2. Additional Current Offenses			
Two or more additional current felony offenses			4
One additional current felony offense			3
One or more additional misdemeanors OR violation(s) of probation/parole			2
One or more status offenses OR no additional current offense			0
SECTION 3. Prior Criminal History			
Two or more arrests for a Cat. A offense			6
One arrest for a Cat. A offense			4
Two or more prior arrests for any other felonies			3
One prior felony arrest for a Cat. B through Cat. F offense			2
One or more misdemeanor arrests			1
No prior arrests			0
SECTION 4. History of Failure to Appear			
Two or more warrants/detention orders for F.T.A. in past 12 months			3
One warrant/detention order for F.T.A. in past 12 months			1
No warrant/detention order for F.T.A. in past 12 months			0
SECTION 5. History of Escape/Runaway (within past 12 months)			
One or more documented escapes from secure confinement or custody			4
Two or more instances of absconding from non-secure, court-ordered placements			3
Three or more runaways from home			1
No history within the past 12 months			0
SECTION 6. Aggravating Factors (+1 pt. each – Do not add more than +3 pts.) (see list below)			
SECTION 7. Mitigating Factors (-1 pt. each – Do not subtract more than -2 pts.) (see list below)			
Total Indicated Score			(____)
Indicated Decision: <u>0-7 Release</u> <u>8-12 Alternative</u> <u>13+ Secure</u>			
CHECK ALL THAT APPLY			
Aggravating factors (At time of Intake)		Mitigating factors (At time of Intake)	
<input type="checkbox"/> A. Juvenile has significant mental health issues		<input type="checkbox"/> A. Juvenile is less than 12 years of age	
<input type="checkbox"/> B. Juvenile has significant substance abuse issues		<input type="checkbox"/> B. Juvenile has no prior record	
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Minor under influence of drugs or alcohol		<input type="checkbox"/> C. Juvenile's involvement in offense was minimal	
<input type="checkbox"/> D. Juvenile is a considerable flight risk and/or pending investigation of additional offenses		<input type="checkbox"/> D. Guardian able/willing to provide appropriate supervision	
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Juvenile has been released from detention within past 30 days		<input type="checkbox"/> E. Active case with Office of Mental Health / OCS	
<input type="checkbox"/> F. Juvenile is currently on Probation			
For: <input type="checkbox"/> Felony <input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanor			
With: <input type="checkbox"/> Rapides Parish <input type="checkbox"/> OYD			
<input type="checkbox"/> G. Juvenile is currently on electronic monitoring program		<input type="checkbox"/> CART notified	
For: <input type="checkbox"/> Early Release <input type="checkbox"/> Sanction as part of Probation		<input type="checkbox"/> CIT notified	

Juvenile Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____ Race: _____ Gender: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Offense Categories and Included Offenses
(Includes attempts or principals)

Category A: VERY VIOLENT FELONIES OR OTHER ASSAULTIVE/VIOLENT ACTS AGAINST PERSONS

Solicitation for Murder, 1st Degree Murder, 2nd Degree Murder, Manslaughter, Vehicular Homicide, Aggravated Rape, Forcible Rape, Simple Rape, Sexual Battery, 2nd Degree Sexual Battery, Aggravated Kidnapping, 2nd Degree Kidnapping, Aggravated Burglary, Aggravated Battery, Aggravated 2nd Degree Battery, Armed Robbery, Assault by Drive-by Shooting, Aggravated Incest, Aggravated Crime against Nature, Aggravated Arson, Carjacking, Terrorism, Disarming of a Peace Officer, Aggravated Assault upon a Peace Officer with a Firearm, Aggravated Assault with a Firearm, 2nd Degree Battery, Mingling Harmful Substances, Intentional Exposure to AIDS Virus, Simple Kidnapping, Aggravated Criminal Damage to Property, 1st Degree Robbery, Simple Robbery, Illegal Use of Weapons or Dangerous Instrumentalities, Stalking, Aggravated Flight from an Officer, Purse Snatching, 2nd Degree Robbery, Attempted Strangulation

Category B: FELONY NARCOTICS

Distribution of Schedule I, II, III, IV, or V drugs, Possession of Schedule II, III, IV, or V drugs

Category C: OTHER FELONIES

All other felony charges not specifically enumerated in Categories A, B, or C including Possession of Schedule I drugs

Category D: MAJOR MISDEMEANORS AGAINST PERSONS

Aggravated Assault, Battery of a Police Officer, Battery of a School Teacher, Battery of a Correctional Facility Employee, Battery of a Child Welfare Worker, Simple Battery of the Infirm, Domestic Abuse Battery, Assault on a School Teacher, Assault on a Child Welfare Worker, Negligent Injuring, Vehicular Negligent Injuring, False Imprisonment

Category E: OTHER MISDEMEANORS

All other Misdemeanor charges not specifically enumerated in Category E

Category F: VIOLATIONS OF PROBATION OR CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDERS

Specific charges for "Violation of Probation", usually arrested by Department of Juvenile Services, or O.Y.D., or Contempt of Court Orders with new Offenses

Category G: VIOLATIONS OF PROBATION TECHNICAL OFFENSE

Specific charges for violating while on Electronic Monitoring or Shadow Tracking

MANDATORY OVERRIDES:
(must be detained)

- ☐ A. Use/possession of firearm during current offense
- ☐ B. Escapee from secure custody
- ☐ C. Taken into custody via extradition
- ☐ D. Juvenile is on electronic monitoring program at time of this offense
- ☐ E. Juvenile is currently on Parole or Probation
- ☐ F. Arrested on "JU" or drug court docketed contempt order

ADMINISTRATIVE OVERRIDES:

- ☐ A. Parent, guardian, or responsible relative cannot be located
- ☐ B. Parent, guardian refuses to take custody of juvenile
- ☐ C. The juvenile is DETAINED/RELEASED for below REASON:

ADMINISTRATIVE OVERRIDE APPROVAL:
(SUPERVISOR ONLY) _____

Actual Decision: _____ Law Enforcement Release _____ Judge Release _____ Alternative _____ Secure _____

Appendix B- Jefferson Parish Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI)

Juvenile- Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Ethnic and Race Data Source: ☐ Juvenile Self-Identification ☐ Identification by Observer or other Source ☐ Hispanic/Latino: Yes or No

Race: ☐ Asian ☐ Black-African-Am. ☐ Native Hawaiian-Other Pacific Islander ☐ North/South/Central Am. Indian-Alaskan Native ☐ White

Gender: _____ Intake Date: ____/____/____ Intake Time: _____ (Military hours) Screener: _____

If arrested at school or while in secure custody, list specific name of that location: _____

Completed as Part of Detention Decision: ☐ Completed as Follow-Up: ☐

Arresting Agency: _____ Arrest Date: ____/____/____ Arrest Time: _____ (Military hours)

SELECT ONLY ONE CHOICE PER SECTION	Score
SECTION 1. Most Serious Current Offense (See next page for examples of offenses in each category)	
LIST OFFENSE: _____	
Category A: "Very Violent" offense against persons.....	17
Category B: Other "Assaultive/Violent" offense against persons.....	14
Category C: Felony narcotics.....	7
Category D: Other felonies.....	6
Category E: Major misdemeanors against persons.....	5
Category F: Other misdemeanors.....	3
Category G: Violation of probation or Contempt of Court order.....	2
SECTION 2. Additional Current Offenses	
Two or more additional current felony offenses.....	3
One additional current felony offense.....	2
One or more additional misdemeanors OR violation(s) of probation/parole.....	1
One or more status offenses OR no additional current offense.....	0
SECTION 3. Prior Criminal History	
Two or more arrests for a Cat. A or Cat. B offense.....	6
One arrest for a Cat. A or Cat. B offense.....	4
Two or more prior arrests for any other felonies.....	3
One prior felony arrest.....	2
One or more misdemeanor arrests.....	1
No prior arrests.....	0
SECTION 4. History of Failure to Appear	
Two or more warrants/detention orders for F.T.A. in past 12 months.....	3
One warrant/detention order for F.T.A. in past 12 months.....	1
No warrant/detention order for F.T.A. in past 12 months.....	0
SECTION 5. History of Escape/ Runaway (within past 12 months)	
One or more documented escapes from secure confinement or custody.....	4
Two or more instances of absconding from non-secure, court-ordered placements.....	3
Three or more runaways from home.....	1
No history within the past 12 months.....	0
SECTION 6. AGGRAVATING FACTORS (+1 pt. each - Do not add more than +2 pts.).....	_____
(see list below)	
SECTION 7. Mitigating Factors (-1 pt. each - Do not subtract more than -2 pts.).....	(-____)
(see list below)	

Total Indicated Score _____

Indicated Decision: ____0 - 9 Release ____10 - 14 Alternative ____15+ Secure

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Aggravating factors (At time of Intake)

- ☐ A. Juvenile is less than 12 years of age
- ☐ B. Juvenile has significant substance abuse issues
- ☐ C. Juvenile's involvement in offense was minimal
- ☐ D. Juvenile is a considerable flight risk
- ☐ E. Juvenile has been released from detention w/in past 30 days supervision

Mitigating factors (At time of Intake)

- ☐ A. Juvenile has significant mental health issues
- ☐ B. Juvenile has no prior record
- ☐ C. Minor under influence of drugs or alcohol
- ☐ D. Guardian able/willing to provide appropriate

OFFENSE CATEGORIES AND INCLUDED OFFENSES

(Includes attempts or principals)

Category A: VERY VIOLENT FELONIES AGAINST PERSONS

Solicitation for Murder, 1st Degree Murder, 2nd Degree Murder, Manslaughter, Aggravated Rape, Forcible Rape, Aggravated Kidnapping, 2nd Degree Kidnapping, Aggravated Burglary, Armed Robbery, Assault by Drive-by Shooting, Aggravated Crime against Nature, Carjacking, Terrorism, Disarming of a Peace Officer, Aggravated Assault upon a Peace Officer with a Firearm, Aggravated Assault with a Firearm

Category B: OTHER ASSAULTIVE/VIOLENT ACTS AGAINST PERSONS

Aggravated Battery, 2nd Degree Battery, Mingling Harmful Substances, Sexual Battery, Intentional Exposure to AIDS Virus, Simple Kidnapping, Aggravated Criminal Damage to Property, 1st Degree Robbery, Simple Robbery, Illegal Use of Weapons or Dangerous Instrumentalities, Stalking, Aggravated Flight from an Officer, Aggravated Incest, Simple Rape, 2nd Degree Sexual Battery, Aggravated Arson, Purse Snatching, Aggravated 2nd Degree Battery, 2nd Degree Robbery

Category C: FELONY NARCOTICS

Distribution or Possession of Schedule I, II, III, IV, or V drugs

Category D: OTHER FELONIES

All other Felony charges not specifically enumerated in Categories A, B, or C

Category E: MAJOR MISDEMEANORS AGAINST PERSONS

Aggravated Assault, Battery of a Police Officer (Without Injury), Battery of a School Teacher, Battery of a Child Welfare Worker, Simple Battery of the Infirm, Domestic Abuse Battery, Assault on a School Teacher, Assault on a Child Welfare Worker, Negligent Injuring, Vehicular Negligent Injuring, False Imprisonment

Category F: OTHER MISDEMEANORS

All other Misdemeanor charges not specifically enumerated in Category E

Category G: VIOLATIONS OF PROBATION OR CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDERS

Specific charges for "Violation of Probation", usually arrested by Department of Juvenile Services, or O.Y.D., or Contempt of Court Orders

MANDATORY OVERRIDES: (must be detained)

- ☐ A. Use/possession of firearm during current offense
- ☐ B. Escapee from secure custody
- ☐ C. Taken into custody via extradition or is a Fugitive from another jurisdiction
- ☐ D. Juvenile is on E.M.P. at time of offense, or is already in Secure Custody
- ☐ E. Juvenile is currently on Parole
- ☐ F. Arrested on "JU" or court docketed contempt order
- ☐ G. Juvenile identified as a Code 6J (Serious habitual offender) by the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office

ADMINISTRATIVE OVERRIDES:

- ☐ A. Parent, guardian, or responsible relative cannot be located
- ☐ B. Parent, guardian refuses/unable to take custody of juvenile
- ☐ C. The juvenile is DETAINED/RELEASED for REASON: _____

ADMINISTRATIVE OVERRIDE APPROVAL: (SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE ONLY) _____

ACTUAL DECISION: _____ JPSO Release _____ Judge Release _____ Alternative _____ Secure

The Institute for Public Health and Justice (IPHJ) is the Lead Entity for the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Louisiana Models for Change Initiative. IPHJ is a research, education and outreach institute within the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. Its mission includes disseminating and sustaining the successful outcomes of the Initiative.

For more information, contact:
Institute for Public Health and Justice
S59-LSU Law Center
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-1000
Phone: 225-578-7646