

Third Judicial District Competency Diversion Pilot Project

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Project Lead Judge

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History



Developed with the NM Supreme Court's Commission on Mental Health and Competency and AOC



Supported by SAMHSA Policy Academy Work Group



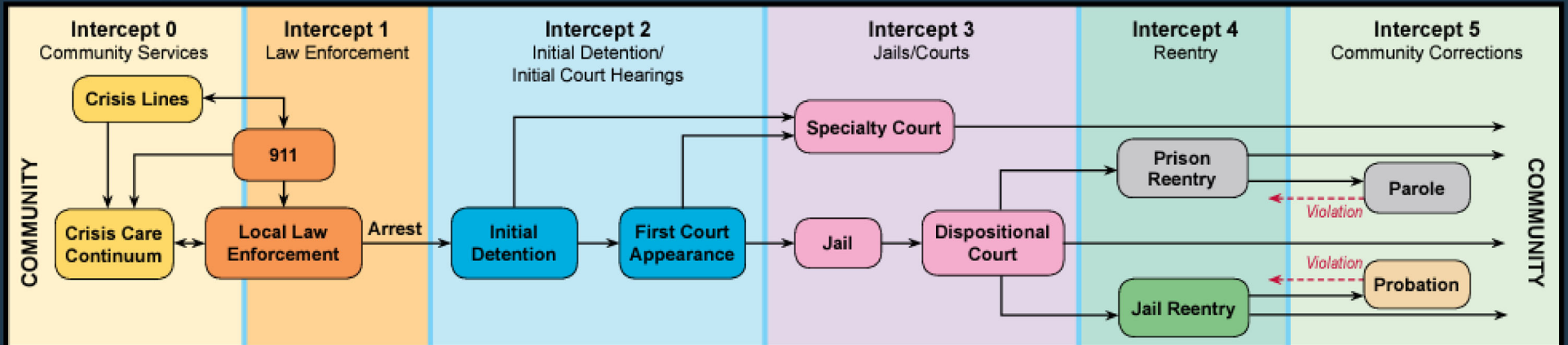
3rd Judicial District is one of four (4) sites and the first to implement. The implementation began in June 2024.

Purpose and Goals

- Mitigate the impact of the criminal justice system on individuals with severe mental illness and/or intellectual and developmental disabilities by diverting them from traditional criminal justice processing.
- Utilize resources to mitigate the impact of severe mental illness on families, caregivers, and communities.
- Implement diversion strategies combined with community-based treatment, trauma-informed approaches, and proven interventions to achieve public safety and public health objectives.
- Promote equity in behavioral health and support efforts to reduce existing disparities.

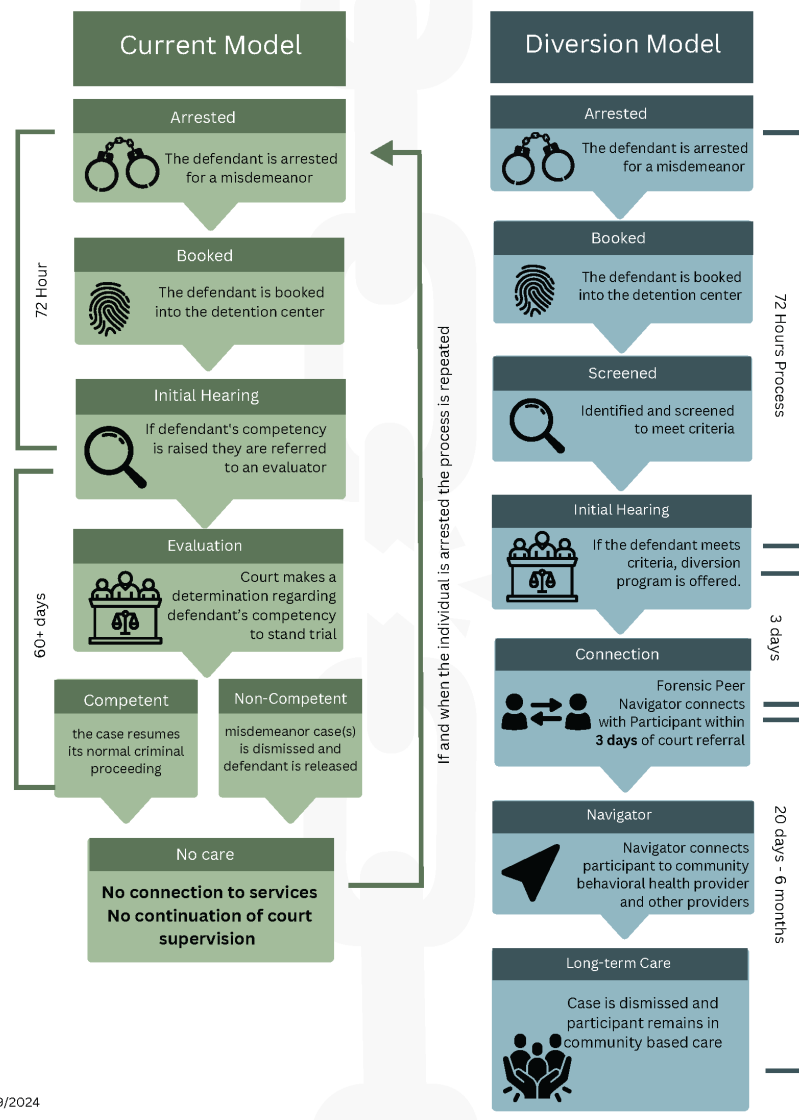
The Sequential Intercept Model

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Population to Serve

- Adults who are likely to cycle through the competency process
 - Charged with misdemeanor crime (excluding DWIs) – *future non-violent felony cases*
 - Identified as having a severe mental illness – screened using the *Brief Jail Mental Health Screen* and confirmed through clinical bio-psycho-social assessment
 - History of being found incompetent, or being involved in the criminal competency process



BRIEF JAIL MENTAL HEALTH SCREEN

Section 1

Name: _____ <small>First MI Last</small>	Detainee #: _____	Date: ____/____/____	Time: _____	AM PM
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Section 2

Questions	No	Yes	General Comments
1. Do you currently believe that someone can control your mind by putting thoughts into your head or taking thoughts out of your head?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Do you currently feel that other people know your thoughts and can read your mind?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Have you currently lost or gained as much as two pounds a week for several weeks without even trying?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Have you or your family or friends noticed that you are currently much more active than you usually are?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Do you currently feel like you have to talk or move more slowly than you usually do?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Have there currently been a few weeks when you felt like you were useless or stupid?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Are you currently taking any medication prescribed for you by a physician for any emotional or mental health problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. Have you ever been in a hospital for emotional or mental health problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Section 3 (Optional)

Officer's Comments/Impressions (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Language barrier	<input type="checkbox"/> Under the influence of drugs/alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-comparative
<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty understanding questions <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify: _____		

Referral Instructions: This detainee should be referred for further mental health evaluation if he/she answered:

- YES to item 7; OR
- YES to item 8; OR
- YES to at least 2 of items 1 through 6; OR
- If you feel it is necessary for any other reason

Not Referred

Referred on ____/____/____ to _____

Person completing screen: _____

Uniqueness of the Program

Competency Diversion is Not:

- Treatment Court
- Probation
- Pretrial Supervision
- Involuntary Treatment

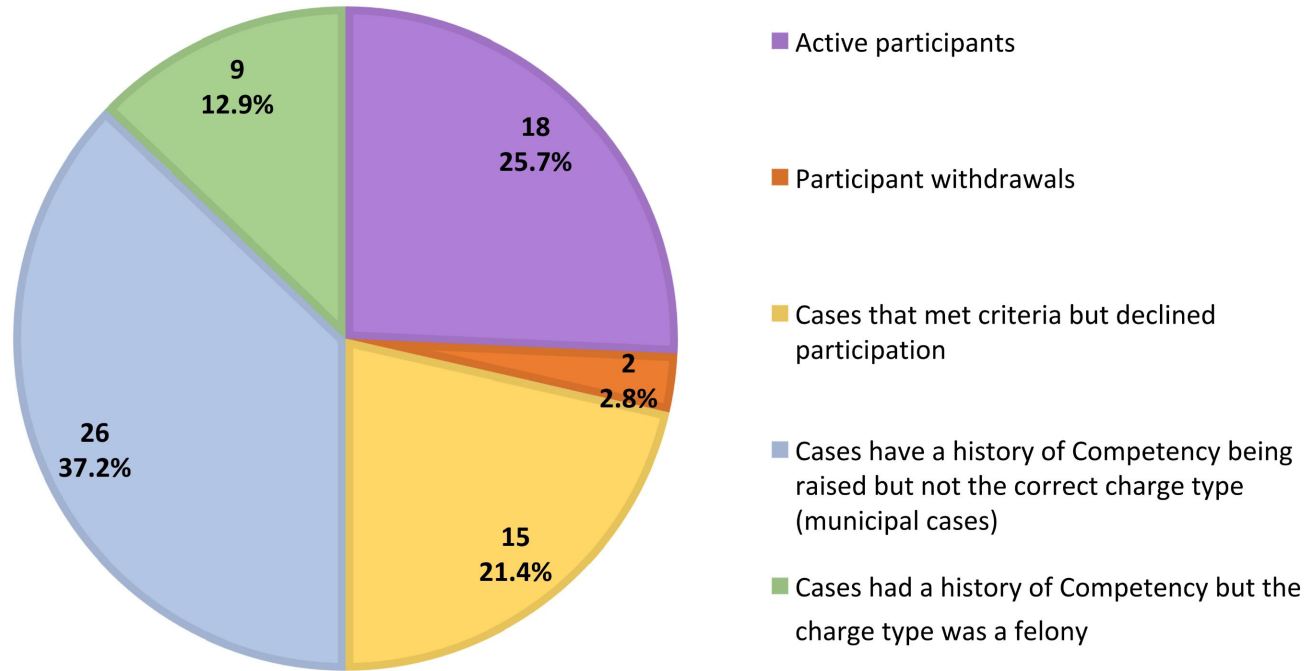
Competency Diversion Does Not:

- Require mandatory drug and alcohol testing
- Result in negative outcomes for the participant

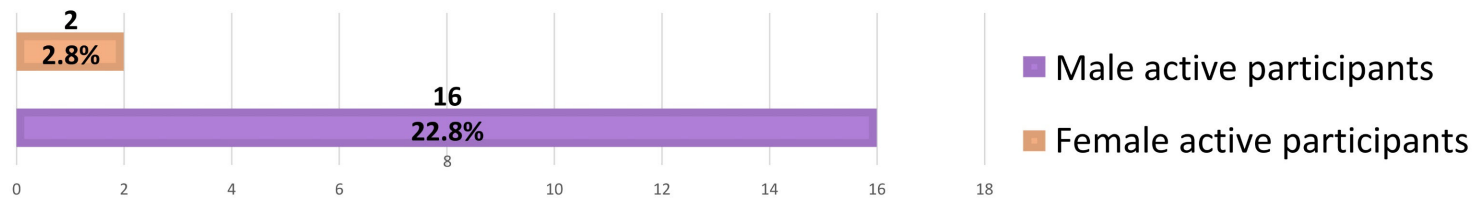
Competency Diversion Does:

- Utilize navigators for engagement and care coordination
- Better align resources with needs
- Bring together courts, behavioral health providers, and services agencies

70-CASES SCREENED TO DATE



ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS



Questions and Comments