



FY2008 RECOMMENDATION/FY08-BP37 PRIORITIZE OFFENDER EMPLOYMENT OVER ROUTINE COURT REVIEW HEARINGS

Status: Implementation Complete

Actions/Updates

2010 UPDATE

Implementation complete. Data are unavailable regarding this recommendation. However, officials at the Division of Probation Services report that this is a routine business practice.

2009 ACTION/IMPLEMENTATION

The Division of Probation Services reports that probation officers currently request hearings only when necessary.

2009 IMPACT

Data are not available on the frequency of review hearings. The extent to which implementation of this recommendation would reduce recidivism is unknown.

2009 BARRIERS

Probation reports that judicial discretion determines the extent of hearings and court appearances. Also, lack of resources precludes undertaking a comprehensive study of this issue.

Description

Minimize court review hearings and appearances to reduce docket overload and interruptions to the offender's employment. Educate judges and probation officers on the necessity of prioritizing support for the offender's employment since research shows that stable employment is linked to recidivism reduction. This does not apply to specialty courts or dockets.

Agencies Responsible

State Judicial

Discussion

Implementation of this recommendation requires the sensible use of review hearings. Recidivism studies show that employed offenders are more likely to remain crime-free when they return to the community. This recommendation is consistent with the Commission's statutory mandate to "focus on evidence-based recidivism reduction initiatives..." [C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(1)].

