



NEWS from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

Lee Harris, Mayor

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**SHELBY COUNTY MAYOR LEE HARRIS SELECTS LLANA GREER AS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PRETRIAL SERVICES**

Leadership role is essential as Shelby County focuses on pretrial reform.

Memphis, TN - Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris has appointed Llana Greer as Executive Director of Pretrial Services for Shelby County.

Ms. Greer has been with Pretrial Services for more than 25 years. As manager at Pretrial Services, Ms. Greer worked with the MacArthur Foundation, the Justice Management Institute, and the Sheriff's Office on best practices for individuals introduced to the justice system. She will work on reforms that will lead to a more equitable, safe, and cost saving operation.

“Our goal is really nothing less than to be a pioneer in pretrial services. We plan to expand the use of efficient, accurate, and unbiased tools. We want to make an impact on lives and expand fairness in our criminal justice system,” says Mayor Harris. “In order to be effective at this kind of work, you need someone with deep understanding and capacity to lead. We have found that in Ms. Greer.”

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“I have spent my career in Pretrial Services. This is work I am very passionate about,” says Ms. Greer. “I look forward to leading this department as Shelby County Government embarks on innovative reforms.”

“Pretrial Services is an essential office when it comes to public safety in Shelby County,” says Shelby County Sheriff Floyd Bonner. “The Sheriff’s Office has worked closely with Ms. Greer for years, and I look forward to a continued partnership as we take a closer look at how people are detained at The Walter Bailey Justice Center.”

“Shelby County has roughly 2,900 men and women in county jail facilities,” says Mayor Harris. “Many are not considered a threat to public safety and could go home to await their trial date, if they had money for bail. They stay in our jails primarily because they don’t have any money. This comes at a tremendous cost. It is nearly \$100 per day to house an inmate waiting for trial. A simple back-of-the-envelope calculation would reveal that the costs of detention are more than \$100 million per year.”

But there is a new tool available that uses data to decide if a non-violent offender should have a bail set or not. This new technology is called the Public Safety Assessment or PSA. Using data collected from detainees, the PSA predicts if someone poses a safety risk and can be expected to show up for trial. Using an algorithm, the PSA creates a score based on several risk factors like age at current arrest, charges, prior convictions, and prior failure to appear in court. Among other duties, Ms. Greer will be tasked with implementation of this technology.

“We will soon begin the important work of criminal justice reform through pretrial services,” says Mayor Harris. “Using technology and up-to-date tools, we can change the lives of thousands of people involved with the criminal justice system, save precious resources, and still keep our community safe.”

Trials on the technology are expected to be launched in the spring.

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