

# **Pretrial Diversion**

What is Pretrial Diversion (also known as Deferred Prosecution)?

Pretrial Diversion is a program that is designed to preserve prosecutorial and judicial resources for serious criminal matters and to provide alternative treatment and intervention to those individuals for whom traditional prosecution may be less effective. Individuals who are recommended for the program by the United States Attorney's Office, can benefit from existing community programs as an alternative to the routine court process. In conjunction with the United States Attorney's Office, the program is operated by the United States Pretrial Services Agency, which assumes supervisory responsibilities. In order to be considered for the program, certain criteria must be met and a candidate must agree to abide by certain conditions that are set forth in the formal Pretrial Diversion Agreement. If the Pretrial Diversion program is successfully completed, the charge(s) initially brought against the individual is eventually dismissed.