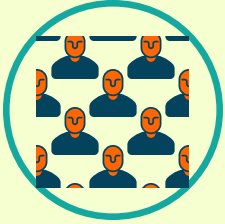


AS MUCH JUSTICE AS YOU CAN AFFORD?

Companion to January, 2018 preliminary report
"Hawaii's Accused Face an Unequal System of Justice"



JAIL OVERCROWDING IS DRIVEN BY BAIL...

Statewide, almost half of detainees in our jails are accused but not convicted, many because they cannot afford money bail. The cost is great, and the conditions are inhumane.



MONEY BAIL IS NEARLY UNIVERSAL...

In Hawai'i, about 88% of the time you MUST pay cash or bond to be released. This creates a two-tiered system of release: the wealthy walk free, while the working poor sit in jail.



BAIL IS TOO HIGH, & SET UP TO FAIL...

With an average bail for the lowest felony over \$11,000, and onerous release conditions unrelated to the charges, the system unfairly disfavors the working class and the unhoused.

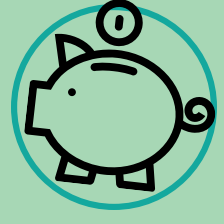


THE SYSTEM IS BIASED, (MAYBE EVEN RACIST)

Between cookie cutter "risk assessment tools" that are stacked against the poor and people of color, unconscionably long detention periods, and a pattern of prosecutorial objection to bail *until* a person pleads guilty, serious civil rights concerns abound, and similar concerns have driven change in other states.

...REFORM WILL SAVE \$\$, IMPROVE SAFETY

Cash bail is meant to get a person to court. Judges have many options beyond "money bail." With Hawai'i lockups bursting at the seams and the subject of an ACLU DOJ complaint, now is the time to act.



...BUT IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE

States like Kentucky and the District of Columbia have all but eliminated cash bail in favor of alternatives, such as simple court reminders via phone or text, and have the same (or better!) rates of appearance.



...BAIL NEEDS TO BE ACHIEVABLE

By making release without onerous conditions the default, everyone has an equal chance to participate in their defense, and to keep their jobs, custody of their children, and housing.



...EQUAL JUSTICE IS THE LAW

In 2018, we have a chance to right these wrongs, and reduce the real harm done to our communities by out of control bail practices. We will also take a bold step to cut wasteful spending on pre-trial incarceration, and begin to confront the biases in our local criminal justice system.



EQUAL JUSTICE, RICH OR POOR. JOIN US!