

Bail Reform

Learn:

[Bail Reform Quiz](#) - ACLU-WA

[End Money Bail](#) - Color of Change

[How Cash Bail Works](#) - Brennan Center for Justice

[Bail reform, which could save millions of unconvicted people from jail, explained](#) - Stephanie Wykstra, Vox, October 17, 2018

[What You Need to Know About Ending Cash Bail](#) - Center for American Progress

[No Money, No Freedom: The Need for Bail Reform](#) - report from ACLU-WA

Personal Story: [Netflix documentary on Kalief Browder](#)

There is an active effort in Washington State. Two reports were released last year:

[Reforming Bail Practices in Washington](#) - Performance Audit performed by Office of the Washington State Auditor, released February 28, 2019

[Pretrial Reform Taskforce Report](#) - February 21, 2019. The Pretrial Reform Task Force was convened by the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission, the Superior Court Judges' Association, and the District and Municipal Court Judges' Association in June 2017. The Task Force examined current pretrial practices in Washington and developed consensus-driven recommendations for jurisdictions to improve their pretrial decisions, including bail.

Take Action: Follow & Support

[Northwest Community Bail Fund](#) The current system of bail is among the most inequitable and unjust aspects of our justice system. Being unable to post bail prior to trial can leave people with a tough choice—either plead guilty to a crime that they may not have committed, or stay in jail for weeks or months. Either choice can impact their job, their shelter/housing and even custody of children. The **Northwest Community Bail Fund** began as a ministry of Saint Mark's Cathedral, but is now an independent 501(c)3, part of the **National Bail Fund Network**. It provides cash bail for people who are charged with low-level crimes in King and Snohomish Counties and who are unable to pay due to poverty. This allows them to get out of jail during their trial period and defend themselves from a position of freedom. NCBF also collaborates with the **Pre-Trial Justice Institute**, the ACLU, and stakeholders in Washington State on bail reform to reduce/eliminate the use of bail. <https://www.nwcombailfund.org/>
[Letter to King County & City of Seattle officials](#), March 20, 2020
[Action Alert from NCBF](#)

[Fair Fight Bond Fund](#) The Fair Fight Immigrant Bond Fund provides bond money for low-income individuals detained at the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, WA.

When ICE detains immigrants, they're often given a choice: Pay a \$5,000-\$25,000 bond, or have their cases fast-tracked before they can get legal help. This cost is out of reach for most families, and fast-tracked cases are more likely to result in deportation, even if the individual has a good chance of winning. The Immigrant Bond Fund gives immigrants in Washington a fighting chance. We provide the bond money that allows detained immigrants to go back to their lives and families while they build a case to gain status.

ACLU - WA and ACLU Nationally [Action Alert from ACLU](#)

ADDITIONAL LINKS SHARED DURING ZOOM COFFEE HOUR

11:30:02 From Pastor Priscilla Austin (she/her/hers) :
<https://www.disruptworshipproject.com/rcl>

11:41:04 From Tone Austin : "Today there are more than 5,500 people incarcerated in Cook County Jail (CCJ). Almost all of them are still awaiting trial and thus presumed innocent under the law.

12:09:35 From Tone Austin : *Chicago article source ... WTTW News March 2020

11:43:58 From Hakme Lee :
<https://fintel.io/so/us/cxw/thrivent-financial-for-lutherans>

11:52:57 From Hakme Lee : <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2020.html>

11:59:23 From Ann Erickson (she/her) : <https://www.nwcombailfund.org/>

11:59:44 From Ann Erickson (she/her) :
https://www.nwcombailfund.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/COVID-19_King_County_Jail_Letter_3.20.20.pdf

12:00:37 From Ann Erickson (she/her) : <https://fairfightbondfund.org/>

12:15:19 From Pastor Priscilla Austin (she/her/hers) :
<https://projects.tampabay.com/projects/2020/investigations/police-pasco-sheriff-targeted/sheriffs-response/>

12:20:17 From Hakme Lee :
<http://www.osborneny.org/resources/resources-for-humanizing-language/>