

Analysis of Transparency within the Utah Criminal Justice System

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Abstract

The state of Utah has numerous laws and regulations governing the process that begins when a person is arrested and booked into jail. These include requirements such as when the probable cause affidavit or charges should be filed, or when pretrial status should be determined. Considering the deleterious effects even a few additional days of incarceration can have on a person's life it is important that there is sufficient data to determine if these statutes are being followed. Using custom web scrapers, I analyzed whether it is possible to make this determination from publicly available booking information. This analysis also includes recommendations to the state of Utah to improve the current system of accountability.