

**Core Competency 12:
Leverage the role of the jail in the criminal justice system**

Description:

Maintain outcome-focused interaction with other components of the justice system to identify and resolve problems and advance the vision/mission of the jail.

Rationale:

Because jails are so profoundly affected by operations of other agencies throughout the criminal justice system, they cannot afford to engage in autonomous policy development or decision-making. Yet all too often, local jails operate as an island, trying to independently solve system-created problems. Local jail leaders need to take the initiative to establish system-wide collaboration. This calls for understanding the interdependent relationships between components of the justice system and developing working relationships that minimize the negative impact of other agencies' actions while maximizing creative synergy among them.

Requires knowledge of:	Requires skills in:	Requires ability to:
The local justice system, community attitudes, and public perceptions	Gathering relevant information Analyzing interrelationships Taking the “pulse” of the community	View the justice system and related agencies from a comprehensive, community-wide perspective
How the jail impacts, and is impacted by, other components of the local, state and federal justice systems	Analyzing how system-wide interactions reciprocally affect the jail Determining where in the system changes in practice or policy could assist the jail Developing productive, collegial working relationships across disciplines and with relevant community organizations Creating a supportive network Negotiation and consensus-building Collecting and presenting evidence-based data and information	Work collaboratively Understand the political environment Be flexible and compromise Remain tenacious Think critically and analytically Know when to ask for help