

## CCJCC DEFINITION OF RECIDIVISM

### **“A qualifying return to custody during a specified time period.”**

- The “specified time period” proposed is the three-year period immediately following a subject’s custody release. This time period shall continue to run regardless of supervision status (i.e. probation, parole, post release community supervision, mandatory supervision, or no supervision).
- It is proposed that “custody” includes jail, prison, and other alternative sentencing options such as fire camp or electronic monitoring imposed in lieu of jail or prison following a qualifying return event.
- “Qualifying returns” would include:
  - misdemeanor arrests where there has been a new criminal filing or a violation in lieu of a new criminal filing;
  - felony arrests where there has been a finding of probable cause through a preliminary hearing or grand jury indictment;
  - convictions;
  - revocations of community supervision; and
  - flash incarceration.

These identified qualifying events be viewed as multiple tiers of a comprehensive definition. This tiered approach would provide several advantages.

Accounting for all qualifying events ensures a comprehensive approach to measuring recidivism and provides a broader view of system impacts, such as demand on jail beds. However, the tiered approach also enables tailored reports on recidivism to be generated that better address specific comparison needs. For example, recidivism reports with specified qualifying events could be generated to maintain consistency with other reports, as needed.