

**Cosigners:**

Cosigners may be used to further secure any bond imposed. A cosigner, usually a family member or friend, agrees to be financially responsible for the bond amount should the defendant fail to appear in court or violate the conditions of bail that are imposed. As with the defendant, a lien is placed against the cosigner during the pendency of the case. Prior to recommending a person to serve in this capacity, the Pretrial Services Officer will interview the potential cosigner to ascertain their financial stability, including employment status, overview of financial assets, prior bankruptcy filings, etc. Certain credit check inquiries may be conducted (bankruptcy, lien/judgements) to verify the information provided. A Wants/Warrants check is also conducted to assure that the proposed cosigner is not currently wanted by any law enforcement agency or court. If not a U.S. citizen, the proposed cosigner should have legal residency status in the United States and be able to provide verification of this status. Additional documentation verifying such things as identification, employment and residence may be required.

Third-Party Custodians:

Third party custodians are utilized by the Court to help monitor the defendant's compliance with bail conditions. In taking on this responsibility, the third-party custodian agrees to use every effort to reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant at all scheduled court proceedings and to notify the Court immediately in the event the defendant violates any conditions of release or absconds. Should they fail to meet this obligation, the third-party custodian could face contempt charges and related penalties. Preferably, the third-party custodian would live with the defendant while on bail. However, an individual having frequent contact with the defendant may be approved as a custodian. The Pretrial Services Officer must conduct a criminal record and a wants/warrants check on the proposed custodian to determine suitability. Minor or dated prior convictions may not exclude the proposed custodian; however, the details of the prior record may be made known to the Court in order for a final determination to be made. Additional documentation verifying such things as identification and residence may be required.



Proposed Third Party/Cosigner Form

Name of Defendant:

Name/Relation to Defendant/How long have they known the defendant:

Date of Birth:

Social Security Number:

Proposed Third Party/Cosigner address and Phone Number:

Living with defendant if being proposed Third Party? (Y/N) If no, where will defendant reside?

Proposed Third Party/Cosigner Employer, Address, Telephone:

Salary & Hours (schedule & hours):

Ever Arrested? (Y/N) Where/When:

Charge:

Disposition:

If applicable, U.S. Residency Status:

Resident Alien Number:

U.S. Naturalization Date:

Ever declared bankruptcy? (Y/N) Where/When:

If the defendant was to reside with the proposed Third Party/cosigner are there any weapons at the proposed residence? (Y/N) – If yes, are they okay with them being removed?

Have the responsibilities and potential consequences of being a Third Party/Cosigner been explained? (Y/N)

Please attach the following documents:

- Copy of Driver's License/Identification
- Proof of residential address
- Proof of legal status in U.S. (If applicable)
- Proof of employment/income

*If secured bond proposed, please attach the following:

- Deed
- Mortgage Statement
- Property Taxes Statement (if not paid in mortgage)
- Comparative Market Analysis (if applicable)
- Title Search (if applicable)

*Failure to submit the requested documents, may delay the review process.

At the conclusion of our investigation, Pretrial Services will contact Defense Counsel regarding the suitability of the proposed parties.