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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MORRIS/SUSSEX VICINAGE TO HOLD CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM/ PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT OPEN HOUSE

The Morris/Sussex Vicinage's Pretrial Services Unit will host an open house on Thursday, Sept. 15 from 2 to 4 p.m. for the public to meet staff and learn more about criminal justice reform. The open house will take place at the Morris County Administrative and Records Building, Room 220, 10 Court St., Morristown.

Pretrial services officers will be responsible for monitoring defendants who are released pending trial when criminal justice reform takes effect on Jan. 1, 2017. At that time, the state will shift from a system that relies principally on setting monetary bail as a condition of release to a risk-based system that is more objective, and thus fairer to defendants because it is unrelated to their ability to pay monetary bail.

The Morris/Sussex Vicinage is one of three pilot vicinages; the others are Camden and Passaic.

A similar open house will be scheduled in mid-October in Sussex County.