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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Justice Study Launches in Bexar County**

On November 21, 2022, the Justice Study, conducted by the Access to Justice Lab at Harvard Law School in cooperation with [The Therapeutic Justice Foundation \(TJF\)](#), launched in Bexar County.

The Justice Study will investigate the effects of pretrial incarceration. It offers people recently arrested and taken to the Bexar County jail, who were assigned bail they cannot pay themselves, and who want to participate in the research, a 50-50 chance of being placed in an Extra-Chance Group or a Regular Pre-Trial Group. For people randomized to the Extra-Chance Group, TJF posts their bail, so they can remain free while awaiting their trial. For people randomized to the Regular Pre-Trial Group, the local non-profit will not post their bail. However, members of this group can still be released if they are able to post their own bail, if someone else posts their bail for them, or if the judge removes their bail. The design of the study (a randomized control trial) is similar to what the Food and Drug Administration requires in studies to figure out whether new drugs work.

The research team will gather outcome data from various sources. Participants agree to allow researchers to obtain information about them from government records (the researchers will keep the information anonymous). Participants also have the opportunity to receive incentives in return for answering survey questions. Individuals charged with violent or domestic violence offences, or with violent or domestic violence convictions in their recent pasts, are not eligible to participate.

Researchers at the University of Zurich and at the [Access to Justice Lab at Harvard Law School](#) are doing the scientific research. The [NOMIS Foundation](#), based in Zurich, provides the necessary fundraising. The TJF enrolls participants, bails out those randomly assigned to the Extra-Chance Group, and works to link all participants to supportive services in the Bexar County community.

For questions about the research operation contact Jim Greiner at the Access to Justice Lab at Harvard Law School, [jgreiner@law.harvard.edu](mailto:jgreiner@law.harvard.edu). For questions about the bailout operation, please contact Michel Maréchal, [michel.marechal@econ.uzh.ch](mailto:michel.marechal@econ.uzh.ch). A set of frequently asked questions is available at <https://a2jlab.org/justice-study-frequently-asked-questions/>.

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