

## **Standardized Objective Classification Systems for County Jail Facilities**

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Violent inmate behavior and increased assaults on detention staff continue to rise in Florida. The increase in inmate population, coupled with limited resources, creates inconsistencies within Florida's jail inmate classification systems. This research will review current objective classification systems used in determining criteria for custody levels, with a focus on "high risk" inmates. A survey of nine Florida county jail facilities with comparative resident and inmate populations was conducted. This survey identified variables that both assisted and hindered operational effectiveness. The data collected for this research questioned if a standardized statewide classification system is necessary, or even possible.