Professional Bail Agents of the United States™ (PBUS™)

Educational Programs
BAIL ENFORCEMENT/FUGITIVE RECOVERY
TRAINING COURSES

Domestic and Foreign Arrest

The Bail Enforcement/Fugitive Recovery Training Series is comprised of four courses, which will build upon each other.

Domestic and foreign arrest discusses in detail the following key elements:

• When the fugitive that remains in the jurisdiction in which the bail was posted;
• State statues;
• How to verify information and enlist the assistance of law enforcement if needed; and
• Asylum states and international recovery.

The student will learn how to observe and adhere to state laws, enlist the help of the Federal Government and other important aspects one must consider when hunting a fugitive outside the jurisdiction of arrest.

Each jurisdiction (State, County, Country) has or should have specific laws with respect to apprehension, custody, return and transportation of a fugitive, yet some states can have virtually no regulations. Strict adherence to the specific statues will be required. At the end of this course resources are provided to assist in locating state specific laws to guide in apprehension.

**Domestic Arrest: Making a bail bond fugitive arrest**

Domestic arrest of a fugitive can take place in a variety of situations. While there is no single course that could detail each and every situation one could encounter, arrests can be routine unusual.

It is crucial that one treat each and every case as though it is unusual. Obtaining significant background detail on the fugitive will provide some of the information needed. Great care must be taken to wear protective gear and have equipment in top working condition.

It is imperative that as a bail enforcement agent, one follow their respective state’s laws for apprehension or the laws where the apprehension will take place. Failure to do so could ultimately get a bail enforcement agent arrested or charged with various crimes, in addition to facing civil litigation. Aside from doing research on laws and procedures, never hesitate to consult with an attorney regarding any aspect of apprehension and arrest. The cost of a consultation will be well worth the dollars spent rather than defending oneself in a criminal or civil trial.

If a bail agent is using a bail enforcement agent to apprehend and surrender the bail bond client, it is very important that both parties understand and define the scope of the work to be performed and the payment agreement is in writing.

The contract should also require that if the bail enforcement agent sub-contracts the work out to another bail enforcement agent, they shall provide the bail bond agency with an indemnity agreement holding the agency harmless for any illegal actions or injuries that can lead to a lawsuit that the sub-contractor commits. Even if the primary bail enforcement agent sub-contracts out the job, they are still responsible for supervising any and all employees and sub-contractors.
In most cases, bail enforcement agents work in a “team” of two or more. For safety of the bail enforcement agent and the defendant, it is highly recommended that there is more than one person making the apprehension. It is also highly recommended that when recovering a female bail fugitive, the recovery team has a lawfully compliant female bail enforcement agent. This can help prevent any charges of sexual misconduct, especially during the “pat down” of the defendant.

Reputable bail enforcement agents will keep the bail agent updated on the progress of the investigation of the bail fugitive. This could be daily or weekly reports in writing or by telephone. Detailed progress reports can help when motioning for additional time to locate and apprehend the bail fugitive.

If the bail agent receives word of any improper or illegal activities committed by the bail enforcement agent, they should take immediate action to stop apprehension efforts or to end the contract with the bail enforcement agent. Otherwise the bail agent can be named as a party to a civil lawsuit or even criminal prosecution.

It is required in some states and recommended in in other states, that one notify local law enforcement of intentions to locate and arrest a bail fugitive within their jurisdiction. It is a matter of personal safety to let local law enforcement know before beginning any apprehension operations in the area.

Several bail agents have been shot and even killed by local police, who came upon a bail arrest and mistook the bail agent for an armed robber. It is very important that the bail enforcement agent inform local law enforcement of their locations, how many in the team, what vehicles are being used and if any weapons are being carried.

Very often, and especially in smaller cities or towns, the local police or Sheriff’s department will assist the bail enforcement agent in an arrest. Law enforcement may accompany the bail enforcement agent to the location and “standby” in case they are needed. The sight of uniform officers may deter a bail fugitive from becoming combative.

When making or attempting to make a bail fugitive arrest, the safety of the bail enforcement agent, defendant and any bystanders need to be the most important factor considered. If an arrest can’t be accomplished safely, it should not be attempted.

There are several ways that the bail enforcement agent can minimize the risk of injury to everyone involved. First, everyone participating in the recovery operation should have received training in bail fugitive recovery. There are several nationally recognized schools that teach basic and advanced fugitive recovery techniques.

Bail enforcement agents who are not licensed bail agents should first know and understand all applicable bail laws for the state they are working in or any state they may have to operate in. Since one can never know when a bail fugitive will resist being arrested, the bail enforcement agent needs to be prepared to defend themselves. Knowledge of basic self-defense and being in good physical shape will be very helpful and highly recommended.

The most important asset a bail enforcement agent can have is the ability to think quickly and adapt to fast changing information. In many cases, the bail enforcement agent will be out in the field receiving updated intelligence during the investigation. They will need to be able to follow-up new leads immediately or risk losing the opportunity to catch the bail fugitive.
In many instances the bail fugitive recovery work is done in an office, on the telephone or on a computer. Being good at talking to people and getting them to give up information that they really don’t want to, is somewhat of an art form. It is a skill that is hard to teach. To some degree, a good bail enforcement agent is like a good salesman in that they can get someone to give them vital information, even though that person may not want to.

**Defendant Information**
The best source for defendant information is the bail bond application and contract. If it is properly completed, all the information a bail enforcement agent needs to locate the defendant is contained in the contract. The contract information should include a color photo of the defendant. If it does not, you may be able to get one a booking photo from the jail that the defendant was released from on bail.

Some bail agents will take a digital photo of a defendant’s identification card, such as a driver’s license. Make note of any tattoos or distinguishing marks.

Some defendants and the co-signers on a contract do not always provide correct information and instead provide false and old addresses, telephone numbers, employment history, etc. The bail agent should verify the information before posting the bail bond.

**The File**
The next best source of defendant information will be in the court file if available, which can include charging information, the defendant’s true address and the attorney’s name. The contents of the court file may not be able to be viewed in its entirety as the police report may contain a victim’s personal information.

If possible, a bail enforcement agent should attempt to talk with the fugitive’s attorney. Whether they are a private attorney or public defender, they have invested time in the defense. If there is a failure to appear by the defendant for a court hearing, the whole court case process stops. Witnesses can move and people forget details as time passes and/or people involved in the case retire. This can hamper efforts of the attorney to properly defend their client so they are usually willing to help provide information on locating the defendant so that they can resume the case as soon as possible.

A fugitive’s family, relatives, neighbors, employers, co-workers, children’s schools, church, or favorite places frequented by the defendant, are very good sources of information about. Good bail enforcement agents will conduct field interviews with these people or entities to try and find the defendant.

Most people have certain routines that they follow and prefer to remain in familiar surroundings. Even if a fugitive leaves the state that they live in, they will most likely go to stay with a relative or friend in another state or even country. A bail enforcement agent should check with the county clerk/recorder’s office, other courts in the area, clubs, union halls or associations the fugitive may belong to. It is an important part of the bail enforcement agent’s investigation to learn as much about the fugitive as possible.
Skiptracning
Other sources of personal information that could lead a bail enforcement agent to a bail fugitive are data providers. Data information can contain the name, address, telephone, property and/or other assets, driver’s license information, employment, vehicle ownership and firearm registration information of the fugitive.

Some search sites have limited basic information available for free, while others require payment for more detailed information. Some data providers will only sell their service to licensed private investigators, bail agents, insurance agents, process servers, lawyers and law enforcement. Social media outlets are also a valuable resource for finding a fugitive.

Skiptrace can take hours or even days on the computer cross-referencing information trying to pin down the location of a fugitive. Even after that, a bail enforcement agent may have to spend hours, days or weeks conducting field interviews of neighbors or local businesses in the attempt to locate the fugitive. There are some services that provide “cell phone pinging,” which can provide a location of the fugitive’s cell phone within a few blocks that can lead to a capture.

Other Steps
It is very important to check with the court to see if a warrant has already been served for the fugitive. A re-arrest may already have occurred on the warrant with the fugitive back in custody. The fugitive may have posted a new bond, picked up a new case or even turned themselves to law enforcement.

The bail enforcement agent should check each day for a re-arrest before going out looking for a fugitive. If the warrant has been served and the defendant is out on a new bond or O.R, the bail enforcement agent could be charged with false arrest or kidnapping if there is no longer an active warrant on the original bail bond.

It is advisable for a bail enforcement agent who is not familiar with the local jurisdiction to work with a local bail agent or bail enforcement agent that they suspect the fugitive is in.

All the preparation and planning that is made can lead to the actual arrest of a bail fugitive. There are several different philosophies on how to conduct an arrest operation and include many factors:

- Location/environment of the bail fugitive
- Charges/punishment the bail fugitive faces
- Attitude of the bail enforcement agent
- Cooperation of the fugitive’s family or friends
- Cooperation of local law enforcement

The location and environment of a bail fugitive is probably the most important factor to consider when preparing to attempt an arrest. Are they located in a small community where everyone knows everyone else? Can the bail enforcement agent blend in if the fugitive is hiding in an urban apartment complex? What if the fugitive lives in a Spanish, Asian or Arabic speaking community? Can the bail enforcement agent speak that language? What if the bail enforcement agent has to enter a known gang area or try to find a member of a motorcycle gang? It is important to know how to get in and out safely.

If the bail fugitive faces serious charges, they may be facing many years in state prison. Most people if given the chance will do anything to avoid going to prison, which includes resisting arrest. Many bail enforcement agents are able to “talk” a bail fugitive back into custody or get the family to give them up with good communication skills.
If local law enforcement is willing to “standby” during the arrest, the bail enforcement agent should allow them to do so as their presence may help prevent any violence from beginning. However, law enforcement should not participate in an arrest as the bail enforcement agent could be considered operating under the “color of law.” If that becomes an issue, the bail enforcement agent could be sued for deprivation of civil rights.

**United States Code Title 42, Section 1983**

“Every person who, under color of any statute, ordinance, regulation, custom, or usage, of any state or territory or the District of Columbia, subjects, or causes to be subjected, any citizen of the United States or other person within the jurisdiction thereof to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution and laws, shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress. To bring any suit under the statute, the person who is deprived of their civil rights must prove all three conditions.

- He or she was deprived of a specific right, privilege, or immunity secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States;
- The alleged deprivation was committed under color of state law; and
- The deprivation was the proximate cause of injuries suffered by the plaintiff.

A bail agent or bail enforcement agent can be sued if they claim they are, or are viewed as, law enforcement.

Specifically, a bail enforcement agent can be sued if:

- Claiming to be part of law enforcement;
- Have and present a state-issued arrest warrant;
- Have a law enforcement actively involved in the bail fugitive’s arrest; and
- Does not follow formal arrest procedures that a law enforcement official follows during a “normal” arrest, which could mean that they would have to read the bail fugitive their Miranda Rights or hold a formal extradition hearing.

Knowing these factors can prepare a bail enforcement agent to properly prepare for the making an arrest. However, some basic rules should be followed. It is always safer to work with two or more bail enforcement agents. The bail enforcement agents will be better able to surround a house or building to prevent the target from escaping out a back door or window.

Local law enforcement should always be notified in advance of the planned bail fugitive recovery operation in their jurisdiction. California Penal Code Section 1299.08 requires prior notification of local law enforcement. Regardless of the jurisdiction, notifying local law enforcement is a good idea.

Since every arrest situation is different, there are no one-way fits all scenarios. But by proper planning, good intelligence of the bail fugitive and properly trained bail enforcement agents, the risk of injury or wrongful arrest can be greatly minimized.

Other risks or liabilities that the bail enforcement agent should think about while planning a bail fugitive arrest include:

- Can “civilians” get hurt if the bail enforcement agent gets involved in a foot chase and someone gets knocked down?
- What if the fugitive runs into a store, mall or a school?
- Is it okay for a bail enforcement agent to engage in a high-speed vehicle pursuit?
• What if the bail enforcement agent shows a badge with the intent to mislead someone into thinking that they are some type of law enforcement official?
• If a bail enforcement agent tells the family or even the bail fugitive that they have a warrant for their arrest, is that misleading or impersonating a law enforcement officer?
• Is it ok to install emergency lights or a siren in a motor vehicle used by a bail enforcement agent?

What Happens After the Arrest?
If there are any injuries to either the bail enforcement agent or enforcement team member, they should be provided with proper medical treatment immediately. Most police and sheriff’s departments will not accept an injured fugitive without having a medical clearance from a paramedic, doctor or hospital.

The bail enforcement agent could be liable for the medical costs if it is determined that they unnecessarily caused the injuries. When excessive force is used to make an arrest, one can be charged with battery, assault with a deadly weapon, etc. Only enough force should be used to defend oneself or to affect the arrest.

The few laws that protect law enforcement officers against false arrest and use of force do not apply to bail enforcement agents. The bail enforcement agent, bail bond company and the surety company are all parties that can be sued. Even if nothing was done wrong, some bail fugitives or their families may file a civil lawsuit claiming some kind of violation of their “rights.

There can also be allegations of criminal violations such as sexual assault of female bail fugitives. To eliminate the chance of a “she said, he said” situation, some bail enforcement agents will use personal video/audio recorders on clothing, in vehicles or even have a team member record the entire arrest to ensure there is proof of no misconduct. Once an arrest has been completed, state law requires that the fugitive be taken before a magistrate or placed back in custody.

A northern California bail agent was able to prove in court during a Department of Insurance revocation hearing, that nothing was done wrong in arresting a bail fugitive. The bail agent was facing not only criminal charges, but also sanctions from the Department of Insurance based on allegations he was able to disprove with a video recording made of the arrest.

Foreign Arrest
Bail enforcement agents should know of the foreign arrest requirements for each state as necessary. In most states, when a person is arrested on an outstanding warrant, it is normal procedure for the arresting law enforcement agency to notify the county where the warrant originated. The bail agent usually is not notified of the bail fugitive’s arrest. It is up the bail agent to locate and also get proof of the custody status of the bail fugitive.

Written Documentation
Written documentation will be needed as part of a motion for exoneration of the bail bond. That could be an “in custody letter” from the jail, a print out from the booking log or bail disposition sheet from the jail.

If the bail fugitive is not in custody, the bail agent must locate, temporary detain them in the presence of a local law enforcement official and obtain a signed affidavit from the law enforcement official stating that the bail fugitive has been positively identified as being the wanted defendant.
Additional documentation could be a photograph of the fugitive standing next to the law enforcement officer holding a current newspaper with the date or headline clearly visible and a set of fingerprints taken of the bail fugitive. Again if the district attorney decides not to extradite, then the court must order the bond exonerated. In either case, the bail agent or the bail enforcement agent must file a motion with the court to have the bond exonerated.

Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution (UFAP) 18 U.S.C. § 1073; The Fugitive Felon Act
Scope: This federal statute provides criminal penalties for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution, confinement, giving of testimony or to avoid service of process. Punishment for conviction under this statute is a $5,000 fine and/or five years in prison.

The primary purpose of the statute is to give the federal government the jurisdiction to assist in the location and apprehension of fugitives from state justice through the use of a “UFAP Warrant.”

Procedure:
• A federal complaint for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution is appropriate where there is probable cause to believe that the fugitive has fled and that his/her flight was for the purpose of avoiding prosecution and that he/she has moved or traveled in interstate or foreign commerce.
• The mere absence from the state without evidence of intent to avoid prosecution is not sufficient.
• Although not legally required, state prosecution should have been commenced by complaint, warrant, indictment or information prior to issuance of the federal complaint.
• However, it is not necessary that the flight itself occur prior to the initiation of the prosecution. Certified copies of the charging documents should be delivered to the United States Attorney’s Office.

UFAP is not used for federal cases.

Uniform Criminal Extradition Act (UCEA)
Extradition is the legal process of transporting a suspected or convicted criminal to another state or nation so that they may stand trial or face sentencing. The alleged or convicted criminal is known as a “fugitive from justice.”

The state or nation where the individual fled from, is known as the “home” or “demanding” state/nation. The state or nation in which the individual is apprehended is known as the “asylum” state/nation.

There are two types of fugitives:
• Those who are being charged with a crime, who have escaped imprisonment, who have violated their bail, probation or parole and who have purposely fled the state in which that alleged crime or violation took place in order to avoid punishment or capture; and
• Those who have travelled or moved unaware that they have done anything wrong or are wanted for criminal proceedings. These individuals may not even become aware of this fact until they are pulled over for speeding and the officer runs a check and subsequently arrests them pursuant to a warrant.

The UCEA establishes clear steps that each state must follow, whether they are the demanding state or the asylum state, when they are involved in an interstate extradition. Although there is federal law that also regulates interstate extradition, the UCEA is more common.

The federal law that pertains to extradition is found in the United States Constitution and in the United States Code. Unlike the UCEA, which sets forth the exact procedures that states must follow when they are seeking to extradite a fugitive, the federal law simply summarizes the extradition process as follows:
• When the demanding state wishes to extradite a fugitive from the asylum state, it must deliver an indictment or affidavit charging the alleged fugitive with a crime; and
• The asylum state must then arrest the named individual and keep them for up to 30 days until an agent from the demanding state comes to claim them. If no agent comes, the asylum state will release the fugitive.

For the most part, these laws are in sync with each other but the UCEA is just more specific. When there is a conflict between them, the federal law has precedent.

If a bail fugitive has left the country and they have been located in a foreign country, the bail agent must go through the international extradition process. The U.S. Marshal Service handles most foreign extraditions. Sometimes in high profile or serious cases, the Federal Bureau of Investigation may be involved also.

Once a fugitive has been located and if they become aware that they risk being sent back, they may try to avoid arrest by once again fleeing. The bail agent can request a “Provisional Warrant” be issued. If a fugitive from the United States has been located in a foreign country, the U.S. prosecutor evaluates the fugitive’s citizenship status, as some countries will not extradite their own citizens. The prosecutor prepares formal extradition documents to be sent to the United States Office of International Affairs for review. If it is determined that the fugitive is a flight or safety risk, the OIA prosecutor may issue a provisional arrest warrant request.

If the United States is known to have a foreign fugitive in its territory and receives a request for provisional arrest from an allied country, the U.S. Office of International Affairs (OIA) contacts the prosecutor in the jurisdiction in which the fugitive is located.

The prosecutor can then draft a complaint for provisional arrest and present it to a magistrate judge, who can then order that a warrant be issued. Cooperation among foreign law enforcement agencies is sometimes accomplished through the International Criminal Police Organization, or INTERPOL. INTERPOL has several levels of “Notices.” A Red Notice is issued to seek the location and arrest of a wanted person with plans to extradite.

**Transportation of Bail Fugitives**
If the arrest of the bail fugitive was accomplished without incident, then the bail enforcement agent must get the fugitive back to the jurisdiction of the court overseeing the case.

**Transportation by Commercial Air**
The FAA and each airline has a set of rules regarding the transportation of fugitives, bail or otherwise. Except in the most extreme cases, or if the custodial personnel are law enforcement, the FAA and the airline will not allow anyone that has the custody of a fugitive to travel on board with a firearm.

**Commercial Aircraft Transport General Conditions**
• The fugitive must be escorted and seated in an inside seat at the rear of the plane;
• The transport team must notify the airline and TSA security ahead of time that they are transporting a fugitive;
• The fugitive can be handcuffed but can’t wear leg restraints and they can’t be seated in an emergency exit row;
• The fugitive can’t wear any clothing that indicates that they are a fugitive;
• The fugitive can’t have a metal knife to eat with if the airline serves meals;
- Civilians are not allowed to carry weapons of any kind on board;
- Weapons be checked in approved locking containers, unloaded luggage;
- No chemical sprays can be transported;
- Usually fugitives are boarded first and taken off the aircraft last; and
- The fugitive must be under the bail enforcement agent’s direct control at all times.

Transportation by Train and Bus
Unless there is no other way to travel, transporting a fugitive by Amtrak or by an interstate bus is not recommended for several reasons.
- It will take much longer, especially if traveling across state lines;
- No weapons are allowed on board Amtrak or Greyhound buses; and
- There are too many opportunities for the fugitive to attempt to escape.

Transportation by Motor Vehicle
The most popular mode of transportation is by private motor vehicle. One can either use their own vehicle or a rental. The bail enforcement agent can leave at any time for a transport, stop to rest or for food when needed. They also have complete control over the bail fugitive.

To ensure a trouble-free transport of a fugitive, a few precautions should be followed:
- The vehicle being used should be checked for reliability. All fluid levels, tires, lights, door locks, seat belts must be checked for proper operation;
- There should be at least two bail enforcement agents transporting the fugitive;
- The fugitive should be placed in the back seat on the passenger side;
- The fugitive can’t be handcuffed or attached to any part of the vehicle and must wear safety belts;
- The fugitive should be handcuffed with the hands behind their back, palms facing outward or with their hands in the front if using a waist chain;
- Cuffs must be double locked to prevent them from tightening up if the fugitive leans against them;
- When transporting a female fugitive, a female bail enforcement agent be part of the team to search the fugitive and take them to the rest room;
- If any stops are made and the fugitive is allowed to go to the rest room or to eat, they should be searched before placing them back in the vehicle;
- A fugitive should never be left alone in the vehicle at any time;
- A basic medical kit should be provided in the vehicle;
- In a medical emergency the bail enforcement agent must seek proper medical treatment and notify local law enforcement of any injuries;
- If the fugitive escapes, the bail enforcement agent must notify local law enforcement immediately with a description and last known location of the fugitive and the direction they were heading; and
- Precautions should be taken to ensure that at no time the fugitive has the opportunity to obtain a weapon.

If using a private vehicle, it should be properly insured. Basic auto insurance coverage may not cover fugitive transporting. A bail enforcement agent may need to get a special business policy or a “rider” on the existing policy. When a fugitive is in custody, the bail enforcement agent is liable for their wellbeing, and any accident could lead to civil lawsuits.
The best way to prevent any problems is to drive the speed limit, take frequent rest breaks and switch drivers regularly. Some bail enforcement agents use car video recorders to document the trip. This will help counter any charges of mistreatment of the fugitive, sexual assaults, etc. by an angry bail fugitive.

Experienced criminals know how to “game” the system. They can appear to be friendly all the way to the jail. But as soon as they get there, they can cry brutality, sexual assault or say the bail enforcement agent drove them around for hours and deprived them of food and drink.

It would also be a good idea to keep a written log of the entire operation from the arrest to booking at the jail. If any complaints are made later, this will provide documentation to support that proper procedures were followed.

Once the bail fugitive is in custody, the bail enforcement agent should get a signed in-custody letter from the jail where they are being held. It may be needed as part of a bail motion to have the bail bond exonerated. The obvious purpose of apprehending a bail bond fugitive is to have the court release the bail bond company from any further obligation for the defendant’s appearance in court.

Important as well is that in order for justice to be served the fugitive must appear and answer to the charges filed against them. The job of the bail agent and the bail enforcement agent is to help ensure that the process of the court system is allowed to operate as efficiently as possible. However, no amount of money is worth the risk of injuring the bail fugitive, the bail enforcement agent or innocent bystanders. If it is known that the fugitive recovery operation can’t be executed safely, it should not be undertaken.
Resources
The resources included here are for reference only. There is no substitute for conducting a thorough search of applicable statues and laws within the jurisdiction a bail enforcement agent will be working in. Please keep in mind that currently many states are undergoing intense changes with bail reform, so it is important to obtain the most up-to-date data per state.

Alabama
Statues
CODE OF ALABAMA TITLE 15. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE. CHAPTER 13. BAIL. ARTICLES 1-6.

Department of Insurance
http://www.aldoi.gov/

Alaska
Statues
- ALASKA CRIMINAL CODE, TITLE 12, CH. 30; CH. 60, SECTION 150; Ch. 70, SECTIONS 170 – 210
- ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 3., PART 2, CHAPTER 23, ARTICLE 5, SECTIONS 23.745 – 23.859
- ALASKA COURT RULES GOVERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF ALL COURTS, RULE 43, SECTIONS 1 – 7, (for bail forfeiture schedules)
- ALASKA COURT RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, PART IX, RULE 41

Department of Insurance
https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/ins/

Arizona
Statues
- ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 20. INSURANCE CHAPTER 2. TRANSACTION OF INSURANCE BUSINESS ARTICLES 1-3
- ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE III. RIGHTS OF PARTIES RULE 7, 7.1 – 7.6
- ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 13. CRIMINAL CODE CHAPTER 38. MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES 7, 12.

Department of Insurance
https://insurance.az.gov/

Arkansas
Statues
- ARKANSAS CODE (AC) TITLE 5 CRIMINAL OFFENSES. SUBTITLE 5, CHAPTER 54. (5-54-120 re failure to appear)
- AC TITLE 16, PRACTICE, PROCEDURE, AND COURT SUBTITLE 6, CHAPTER 84 BAIL GENERALLY
- AC TITLE 17 SUBTITLES 2. CHAPTER 19. BAIL BONDSMEN [17-19-101 to 403]
Department of Insurance  
https://insurance.arkansas.gov/

**California**  
Statutes  
- California Insurance Code, Div. 1, Part 2, Ch. 7, Sections 1800-1823, (hereafter referred to as IC)  
- Under IC 1800.6, cities and counties are free to enact further regulations not in conflict with the IC sections cited above in A  
- California Penal Code, Part 2, Title 10, Ch. 1, Article 5.5, Sections 1299-1317 (hereafter referred to as PC)  
- California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Ch. 5, Sections 2053 et seq.

Department of Insurance  
http://www.insurance.ca.gov/

**Colorado**  
Statutes  
- COLORADO REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 12. PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS GENERAL ARTICLE 7. BAIL BONDING AGENT  
- COLORADO REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 13. COURTS AND COURT PROCEDURE RELATED COURT RULES CHAPTER 30. COLORADO MUNICIPAL COURT RULES OF PROCEDURE RULE 246. BAIL  
- COLORADO REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 16. CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE 4. RELEASE FROM CUSTODY PENDING  
- FINAL ADJUDICATION PART 1. RELEASE ON BAIL.

Department of Insurance  
https://www.colorado.gov/dora/division-insurance

**Connecticut**  
Statutes  
- CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 29. PUBLIC SAFETY AND STATE POLICE CHAPTER 533A. BAIL ENFORCEMENT AGENTS  
- CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 54. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 960. INFORMATION, PROCEDURE AND BAIL  
- CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 29. PUBLIC SAFETY AND STATE POLICE CHAPTER 533. PROFESSIONAL BONDSMEN

Department of Insurance  
https://www.cerc.com/licenses/bail-enforcement-agent-license-bounty-hunter/
**Delaware Statutes**

Delaware’s statutes currently do not contain comprehensive regulations for bail bond recovery or bail enforcement agents, though some provisions exist regarding forfeiture. The most comprehensive regulations are contained in the proposed House Bill No. 226. The applicable provisions in this bill are, therefore, given for information purposes on what will likely become Delaware law regarding bail enforcement agents. It should be remembered, however, that this bill is not current law and may not become law.

- Family Court Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rule 46 MICHER’S DELAWARE CODE ANNOTATED RULES COURT RULES for the FAMILY COURT of the STATE OF DELAWARE Rules of Criminal Procedure X. GENERAL PROVISIONS RULE 46. BAIL

**SUMMARY:** Requires bail enforcement agents, commonly known as bounty hunters, to be licensed by the Department of Public Safety; requires bail agents searching for a person to notify the State Police and a municipality’s chief law enforcement officer prior to searching or apprehending a person within the municipality’s jurisdiction.

**Department of Insurance**

https://insurance.delaware.gov/

**Florida Statutes**

- Florida Statutes (FS) Chapter 648, Chapter 903
- Florida Administrative Code (AR), Chapter 4-221

**Department of Insurance**

https://www.myfloridacfo.com/

**Georgia Statutes**

- CODE OF GEORGIA TITLE 17. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 6. BONDS AND RECOGNIZANCES ARTICLE 2. SURETIES PART 2. PROFESSIONAL BONDSMEN
- CODE OF GEORGIA TITLE 17. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 6. BONDS AND RECOGNIZANCES ARTICLE 2. SURETIES PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS
- CODE OF GEORGIA TITLE 17. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 6. BONDS AND RECOGNIZANCES ARTICLE 3. PROCEEDINGS FOR FORFEITURE OF BONDS OR RECOGNIZANCES

**Department of Insurance**

https://www.oci.ga.gov/
Hawaii
Statutes
- HRS § 804-51 HAWAII REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED DIVISION 5. CRIMES AND CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS TITLE 38. PROCEDURAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS CHAPTER 804. Bail; Bond to Keep the Peace PART III. FORFEITURE
- HI ST §§ 804- 14, 41.

(The statutes do not currently contain any licensing provisions for bail enforcement agents or bounty hunters, nor is there any pending legislation for such).

Department of Insurance
http://cca.hawaii.gov/ins/

Idaho
Statutes
- IDAHO CODE TITLE 19. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 29. BAIL

Department of Insurance
https://doi.idaho.gov/

Illinois
Statutes
No bail, no recovery

Department of Insurance
https://insurance.illinois.gov/

Indiana
Statutes
- INDIANA CODE [IC] 27-10-1 to 27-10-5-3
- IC 35-33-1-4 to 35-41-3-3
- IC 760 DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE. 760 IAC 1-6.2 governs the actions of bail agents and recovery agents.

Department of Insurance
https://www.in.gov/idoi/2446.htm

Iowa
Statutes
- IOWA CODE ANNOTATED TITLE III. PUBLIC SERVICES AND REGULATION SUBTITLE 1. PUBLIC SAFETY CHAPTER 80A. PRIVATE INVESTIGATIVE AGENCIES AND SECURITY AGENTS 80A.1 – .16A
- IOWA CODE ANNOTATED TITLE XVI. CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE SUBTITLE 2. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 811. PRETRIAL RELEASE—BAIL 811.3, .6 – .9

Department of Insurance
https://iid.iowa.gov/
Kansas
Statutes
- KANSAS STATUTES ANNOTATED CHAPTER 22.–CRIMINAL PROCEDURE KANSAS CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE 28.–CONDITIONS OF RELEASE 22-2806 – 22-809

Department of Insurance
http://www.ksinsurance.org/

Kentucky
Statutes
No bail, no fugitive recovery

Department of Insurance
http://insurance.ky.gov/

Louisiana
Statutes
- LOUISIANA STATUTES ANNOTATED LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES TITLE 22. INSURANCE CHAPTER 1. INSURANCE CODE PART XXXIV. BAIL ENFORCEMENT AGENTS
- LOUISIANA STATUTES ANNOTATED LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES TITLE 15. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 1. CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ANCILLARIES CODE TITLE VIII. BAIL
- LOUISIANA STATUTES ANNOTATED LOUISIANA CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE TITLE VIII. BAIL Arts. 344 – 345.

Department of Insurance
http://www.ldi.la.gov/

Maine
Statutes
- MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 15. COURT PROCEDURE—CRIMINAL PART 2. PROCEEDINGS BEFORE TRIAL CHAPTER 105-A. MAINE BAIL CODE SUBCHAPTER V. ENFORCEMENT ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS § 1094. Forfeiture of bail; enforcement
- MAINE RULE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, RULE 46. CERTAIN PROCEDURAL PROVISIONS GOVERNING BAIL (f) Forfeiture

Department of Insurance
http://www.maine.gov/pfr/insurance/
Maryland
Statutes
- ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND (ACM) 10-101 et seq. and Subtitle 3. Bail Bondsmen, 10-301 et seq. (Insurance licensing requirements for bondsmen.)
- CODE OF MARYLAND REGULATIONS (COMAR) 31.03.05 et seq. (Regulates the way bondsmen conduct their business, record keeping requirements, etc.)
- MARYLAND RULES – CRIMINAL CAUSES, RULE 4-217. (MARYLAND RULES are promulgated by the Maryland Court of Appeals pursuant to the Maryland Constitution, Article IV, Sec. 18. Such RULES have the force of law. RULE 4-217 treats with surrender of defendants, forfeitures, forfeiture defenses, etc.)

Department of Insurance
http://www.mdinsurance.state.md.us/Pages/default.aspx

Massachusetts
Statutes
- M.G.L.A. 276 § 61B MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS ANNOTATED PART IV. CRIMES, PUNISHMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS IN CRIMINAL CASES TITLE II. PROCEEDINGS IN CRIMINAL CASES CHAPTER 276. SEARCH WARRANTS, REWARDS, FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE, ARREST, EXAMINATION, COMMITMENT AND BAIL. PROBATION OFFICERS AND BOARD OF PROBATION ARREST, EXAMINATION, COMMITMENT AND BAIL
- MASSACHUSETTS RULES OF COURT RULES GOVERNING PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO TAKE BAIL RULE 1 – 40
- 1999 Massachusetts House Bill No. 1481, Massachusetts 183rd General Court — 1999 Regular Session Introduced Version Date January 6, 1999 AN ACT RELATIVE TO BOUNTY HUNTERS. SO-CALLED

Department of Insurance
https://www.mass.gov/orgs/division-of-insurance

Michigan
Statutes
- MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS ANNOTATED CHAPTERS 760 TO 776. CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 765. CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE–BAIL CHAPTER V. BAIL. Sections 765.1 — 765.28
- MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS ANNOTATED CHAPTER 550. GENERAL INSURANCE LAWS SURETY COMPANIES 550.102 – 550.108. Contain some regulations that are relevant, though not specifically on point

Michigan does not have much on-point legislation dealing with the regulation of bail recovery agents or the bail recovery business in general.

Department of Insurance
http://www.michigan.gov/difs/0,5269,7-303-22535---00.html
Minnesota
Statutes
• MINNESOTA STATUTES ANNOTATED GENERAL RULES OF PRACTICE FOR THE DISTRICT COURTS TITLE VIII. RULES RELATING TO CRIMINAL MATTERS RULE 702. BAIL
• MINNESOTA STATUTES ANNOTATED CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 629. EXTRADITION, DETAINERS, ARREST, BAIL Warrants; BAIL BONDS

Department of Insurance
https://mn.gov/commerce/?agency=Commerce

Mississippi
Statutes
• WEST’S ANNOTATED MISSISSIPPI CODE TITLE 83. INSURANCE CHAPTER 39. BAIL BONDS AND BONDSMEN
• WEST’S ANNOTATED MISSISSIPPI CODE TITLE 99. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 5. BAIL

Department of Insurance
http://www.mid.ms.gov/#&panel1-1

Missouri
Statutes
• VERNON’S ANNOTATED MISSOURI STATUTES TITLE XXIV. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS CHAPTER 374. DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE REGULATION OF BAIL BOND AGENTS
• VERNON’S ANNOTATED MISSOURI STATUTES TITLE XXXVII. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 544. ARREST, EXAMINATION, COMMITMENT AND BAIL

Department of Insurance
https://insurance.mo.gov/

Montana
Statutes
• MONTANA CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 46. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 9. BAIL PART 5. CONDITIONS OF BAIL — VIOLATION THEREOF.

Department of Insurance
http://csimt.gov/
Nebraska Statutes
- NEBRASKA REVISED STATUTES OF 1943 CHAPTER 29. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE 11. PROCEEDINGS UPON FORFEITURE OF RECOGNIZANCE
- NEBRASKA REVISED STATUTES OF 1943 CHAPTER 25. COURTS, DISTRICT; CIVIL PROCEDURE ARTICLE 22. GENERAL PROVISIONS. (D) MISCELLANEOUS
- NEBRASKA REVISED STATUTES OF 1943 CHAPTER 29. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE 9. BAIL

Department of Insurance
https://doi.nebraska.gov/

Nevada Statutes
This state is extremely strict.
- NEVADA REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 57. INSURANCE. CHAPTER 697. BUSINESSES RELATED TO BAIL
- NEVADA REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 14. PROCEDURE IN CRIMINAL CASES. CHAPTER 178

Department of Insurance
http://doi.nv.gov/

New Hampshire Statutes
- NEW HAMPSHIRE STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE LIX. PROCEEDINGS IN CRIMINAL CASES CHAPTER 597. BAIL AND RECOGNIZANCES § 597:7 – 36
- NEW HAMPSHIRE STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE LIX. PROCEEDINGS IN CRIMINAL CASES CHAPTER 598-A. PROFESSIONAL BONDSMEN § 598-A:1 – 6

Department of Insurance
https://www.nh.gov/insurance/

New Jersey Statutes
- WEST'S NEW JERSEY RULES OF COURT PART III. RULES GOVERNING CRIMINAL PRACTICE CHAPTER VI. SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS RULE 3:26. BAIL

Department of Insurance
http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/index.html
New Mexico
Statutes
• MICHIE’S NEW MEXICO STATUTES ANNOTATED Rules of Criminal Procedure for the District Courts ARTICLE 4 Release Provisions RULE 5-406

Department of Insurance
http://www.osi.state.nm.us/ProducerLicensing/index.aspx

New York
Statutes
• MCKINNEY’S CONSOLIDATED LAWS OF NEW YORK ANNOTATED CRIMINAL PROCEDURE LAW CHAPTER 11-A OF THE CONSOLIDATED LAWS PART THREE—SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS AND MISCELLANEOUS PROCEDURES TITLE P—PROCEDURES FOR SECURING ATTENDANCE AT CRIMINAL ACTIONS AND PROCEEDINGS OF DEFENDANTS AND WITNESSES UNDER CONTROL OF COURT—RECOGNIZANCE, BAIL AND COMMITMENT
• MCKINNEY’S CONSOLIDATED LAWS OF NEW YORK ANNOTATED INSURANCE LAW CHAPTER 28 OF THE CONSOLIDATED LAWS ARTICLE 68–BAIL BONDS

Department of Insurance
http://www.dfs.ny.gov/insurance/dfs_insurance.htm

North Carolina
Statutes
• WEST’S NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES ANNOTATED CHAPTER 15A. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ACT SUBCHAPTER V. CUSTODY ARTICLE 26. BAIL PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS
• WEST’S NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES ANNOTATED CHAPTER 15A. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ACT SUBCHAPTER V. CUSTODY ARTICLE 26. BAIL PART 2. BAIL BOND FORFEITURE
• WEST’S NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTES ANNOTATED CHAPTER 58. INSURANCE ARTICLE 71. BAIL BONDSMEN AND RUNNERS.

Department of Insurance
http://www.ncdoi.com/

North Dakota
Statutes
• N.D.R.Crim.P. NORTH DAKOTA COURT RULES ANNOTATED NORTH DAKOTA RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE X. GENERAL PROVISIONS. Rule 46. Release from custody

Department of Insurance
http://www.nd.gov/ndins/
Ohio
Statutes
- BALDWIN’S OHIO REVISED CODE ANNOTATED TITLE XXIX. CRIMES—PROCEDURE CHAPTER 2937. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION; BAIL
- BALDWIN’S OHIO REVISED CODE ANNOTATED WEST’S OHIO RULES OF COURT LOCAL RULES OF PRACTICE OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT, GENERAL DIVISION CRIMINAL RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE RULE 67 BAIL FORFEITURE.

Department of Insurance
http://www.insurance.ohio.gov/Pages/default.aspx

Oklahoma
Statutes
- OKLAHOMA STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 59. PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS CHAPTER 33. BAIL BONDSMEN.

Department of Insurance
https://www.ok.gov/oid/

Oregon
Statutes
No commercial bail, no fugitive recovery

Department of Insurance
http://dfr.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx

Pennsylvania
Statutes
- PURDON’S PENNSYLVANIA STATUTES AND CONSOLIDATED STATUTES ANNOTATED PURDON’S PENNSYLVANIA CONSOLIDATED STATUTES ANNOTATED TITLE 42. JUDICIARY AND JUDICIAL PROCEDURE PART VI. ACTIONS, PROCEEDINGS AND OTHER MATTERS GENERALLY CHAPTER 57. BONDS AND RECOGNIZANCES SUBCHAPTER B. PROFESSIONAL BONDSMEN
- PURDON’S PENNSYLVANIA STATUTES AND CONSOLIDATED STATUTES ANNOTATED PURDON’S PENNSYLVANIA CONSOLIDATED STATUTES ANNOTATED RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 4000. BAIL PART III. GENERAL PROCEDURES IN ALL BAIL CASES Rule 4016

Department of Insurance
http://www.insurance.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx
Rhode Island
Statutes

MICHIE’S RHODE ISLAND COURT RULES ANNOTATED SUPERIOR COURT
RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE X. GENERAL PROVISIONS Rule 46. Release on bail.

MICHIE’S RHODE ISLAND COURT RULES ANNOTATED SUPERIOR COURT

Department of Insurance
http://www.dbr.state.ri.us/divisions/insurance/

South Carolina
Statutes
• CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976 ANNOTATED TITLE 38. INSURANCE
  CHAPTER 53. BAIL BONDSMEN AND RUNNERS
• CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976 ANNOTATED TITLE 17. CRIMINAL
  PROCEDURES CHAPTER 15. BAIL AND RECOGNIZANCES

Department of Insurance
http://doi.sc.gov/Pages/default.aspx

South Dakota
Statutes
• SOUTH DAKOTA CODIFIED LAWS TITLE 58. INSURANCE CHAPTER 58-22. BAIL
  BONDSPERSONS
• B. SOUTH DAKOTA CODIFIED LAWS TITLE 23A. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER
  23A-43. (RULE 46) BAIL

Department of Insurance
http://dlr.sd.gov/insurance/default.aspx

Tennessee
Statutes
TENNESSEE CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 40 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE
CHAPTER 11 BAIL Parts 1 – 4.

Department of Insurance
https://www.tn.gov/commerce.html
Texas Statutes
- Occupations Code, Chapter 1704
- Revised Civil Statutes (RCS) of the State of Texas, Vol. 7A, Article 2372p-3
- Code of Criminal Procedure (CCP), Ch. 14 Arrest Without Warrant, Ch. 17 Bail, & Ch. 22 Forfeiture of Bail

Unless otherwise specified, all references below will be to sections of Ch. 1704, Occupations Code. Concerning local governance, the bail industry is regulated in all counties with a population of 110,000 or more (and in smaller counties on an optional basis) by County Bail Bond Boards (CBBB) [Sec. 1704.051] which have broad latitude in administering the act. The CBBB can exercise powers incidental and necessary to administer the act and can supervise and regulate each phase of the bonding business in the county. [1704.101(1)-(9)]

In counties without a CBBB, regulation is by the sheriff and by the judges within that county [CCP 17.11, 17.13]

Department of Insurance
http://www.tdi.texas.gov/

Utah Statutes
The bail bond industry is heavily regulated in the state of Utah. Extensive statutory regulations exist, in particular, for agent licensing requirements and bail forfeiture.
- UTAH CODE, 1953 TITLE 77. UTAH CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 20. BAIL
- UTAH CODE, 1953 TITLE 77. UTAH CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURECHAPTER 20b. BAIL SURETY
- UTAH CODE, 1953 TITLE 31A. INSURANCE CODE CHAPTER 35. BAIL BOND SURETY LICENSING ACT PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Department of Insurance
https://insurance.utah.gov/

Vermont Statutes

Department of Insurance
http://www.dfr.vermont.gov/insurance/insurance-division
Virginia
Statutes
- CODE OF VIRGINIA TITLE 19.2. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE. CHAPTER 9. BAIL AND RECOGNIZANCES. ARTICLE 4. BAIL BONDSMEN
- CODE OF VIRGINIA TITLE 19.2. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE. CHAPTER 9. BAIL AND RECOGNIZANCES. ARTICLE 2. RECOGNIZANCES

Department of Insurance

Washington
Statutes
- WEST’S REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ANNOTATED TITLE 10. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CHAPTER 10.19. BAIL AND APPEARANCE BONDS
- WEST’S REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON ANNOTATED TITLE 18. BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS CHAPTER 18.185. BAIL BOND AGENTS

Department of Insurance
https://www.insurance.wa.gov/

West Virginia
Statutes
- WEST VIRGINIA CODE 1966 CHAPTER 51. COURTS AND THEIR OFFICERS. ARTICLE 10A. BAIL BOND ENFORCERS
- WEST VIRGINIA CODE 1966 CHAPTER 62. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE. ARTICLE 1C. BAIL

Department of Insurance
http://www.wvinsurance.gov/

Wisconsin
Statutes
No commercial bail, no fugitive recovery

Department of Insurance
https://oci.wi.gov/Pages/Homepage.aspx

Wyoming
Statutes
- WYOMING COURT RULES ANNOTATED WYOMING RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE Rule 46. Release from custody

Department of Insurance
http://doi.wyo.gov/

State Departments of Insurance, Annotated codes courtesy of AIA Surety
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