

# DATA DRIVEN CRIMINAL JUSTICE INNOVATION

## Developing a trusted framework for data driven criminal justice innovation

The advent of new methods for deriving insight from data combined with an unprecedented degree of political will and bipartisan consensus to improve the nation's criminal justice system present a unique opportunity to make significant advances toward decreasing both crime and incarceration. But realizing the promise of data driven innovation lags behind the reality of how data is currently collected, shared, and used.

To accelerate trusted access to data for improved management of our criminal justice system, the Governance Lab with the support of the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, is working

to articulate principles, policies, practices and tools for trusted data sharing that safeguard civil liberties while maximizing the opportunity for evidence-based policymaking and reform. The goal of the project is to enable greater collaboration between government and the research community to the end of improving the effectiveness and legitimacy of our nation's criminal justice system.

Building on its experience working in the field of data-driven governance innovation, the GovLab is collaborating with a range of partners over the next year to:

### VISION

Develop and deepen the vision for why responsible data sharing can improve the functioning of our criminal justice system. Drawing on comparative experience from the domains of health and education, where advances in handling personally identifiable information have enabled systemic reform, GovLab will publish a white paper on responsible data sharing laying out risks, value proposition and how-to's.

### FRAMEWORK

Working in collaboration with agencies from several jurisdictions, GovLab will conduct a path analysis surveying and visualizing what data is currently collected about an individual (both adult and juvenile) as she progresses through the system from arrest to incarceration and parole. The analysis will include an assessment of how that data is and is not currently shared, and the policy, technical and legal impediments to, and opportunities for, data sharing.

## POLICY

Working closely with the White House Office of the Chief Technology Officer, GovLab is convening national, state and local government officials both to deepen empirical understanding of how data is currently collected and used and to advance policies and practices that would accelerate responsible uses of data that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

## SKILL-BUILDING

The GovLab Academy is offering online skill-building and project coaching programs aimed at helping innovators, especially within government, better develop their capacity for using data effectively.

## MOVEMENT-BUILDING

In addition to face to face convenings, the GovLab's Criminal Justice Innovation Project is launching a professional skills network known as the Network of Innovators designed to help connect those working with criminal justice data to one another for mutual learning.

**GOVLAB IS SEEKING PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS IN THIS EFFORT.  
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## ABOUT THE GOVLAB

**The GovLab's mission is to improve people's lives by changing the way we govern.**

Our goal is to strengthen the ability of institutions – including but not limited to governments – and people to work more openly, collaboratively, effectively and legitimately to make better decisions and solve public problems.

We believe that increased availability and use of **data**, new ways to leverage the capacity,

intelligence, and expertise of **people** in the problem-solving process, combined with new advances in **technology and science** can transform governance.

We approach each challenge and opportunity in an **interdisciplinary, collaborative** way, irrespective of the problem, sector, geography and level of government.