



Bail and Bond Information

The following information is provided for those seeking information regarding posting bail and securing a bond for release.

Q: What is bail or bond?

A person who has been arrested and charged with committing a crime may be required to post bail (a bond) before being released from jail. A bond is an insurance policy to guarantee that an arrestee will appear in court for trial. Should that person fail to appear for a court date, the bond money is forfeited.

A bond may be posted in cash, either by the arrestee or by someone on their behalf. **Before you post a bond, make sure the person you want to bond out is in jail. Call the Saint Johns County Sheriffs Office (904) 824-8304.** Most crimes, but not all crimes, are bondable offenses. The exception would be serious crimes, which are not bondable. The bond amount is either set by a judge or it is determined from an established schedule.

Q: How do I bail or bond someone out of jail?

There are 2 ways to post a bond:

Cash bond: The total amount of the bond, in cash, is placed with St. Johns County to guarantee the arrestee will appear in court for their hearing. Should the arrestee fail to appear, the money will be forfeited. Should a not guilty verdict be rendered or the case be dismissed, or at the conclusion of trial proceedings, bond money will be refunded. If a judge so orders, any court costs or court fines will be taken out of the posted bond. Once the case is disposed of, the remaining funds will be refunded. Refunds for cash bonds will be done at the Clerk of Courts Office in the Court House.

Cash, cashiers checks or money orders are the only accepted methods of payment for bond. Cashiers checks and money orders **MUST** be made out to: Clerk of the Court, St. Johns County, **FOR LOCAL CHARGES.** Should the bond be for another agency, IE, Putnam County, the cashiers check or money order should be made out to the court of that agency.

Surety bond: A bonding company posts a bond that guarantees an arrestee will appear at the next court date. Neither St. Johns County nor the Sheriffs Office participates in the contract between an arrestee and the bonding company. The bonding company charges a fee for each bond posted. Consult the Yellow Pages for listings of bonding companies.