S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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I N A S S E M B L Y

March 7, 2012

Introduced by M. of A. SIMOTAS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the criminal procedure law, in relation to establishing the detective Peter Figoski act of 2012 including the risk to public safety as a factor in bail determinations

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "detective Peter Figoski act of 2012".

S 2. Subdivisions 2 and 3 of section 510.30 of the criminal procedure law, subparagraph (v) of paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 920 of the laws of 1982, subparagraphs (vi), (vii) and (viii) of paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 as renumbered by chapter 447 of the laws of 1977 and subdivision 3 as added by chapter 788 of the laws of 1981, are amended to read as follows:

2. To the extent that the issuance of an order of recognizance or bail and the terms thereof are matters of discretion rather than of law, an application is determined on the basis of the following factors and criteria:

(a) With respect to any principal, the court [must] SHALL consider the kind and degree of control or restriction that is necessary to secure his OR HER court attendance when required. In determining that matter, the court must, on the basis of available information, consider and take into account:

(i) The principal's character, reputation, habits and mental condition;

(ii) His OR HER employment and financial resources; and

(iii) His OR HER family ties and the length of his OR HER residence if any in the community; and

(iv) His OR HER criminal record if any; and

(v) His OR HER record of previous adjudication as a juvenile delinquent, as retained pursuant to section 354.2 of the family court act, or, of pending cases where fingerprints are retained pursuant to section 306.1 of such act, or a youthful offender, if any; and

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD14055-03-2

(vi) His OR HER previous record if any in responding to court appearances when required or with respect to flight to avoid criminal prosecution; and

(vii) If he OR SHE is a defendant, the weight of the evidence against him OR HER in the pending criminal action and any other factor indicating probability or improbability of conviction; or, in the case of an application for bail or recognizance pending appeal, the merit or lack of merit of the appeal; and

(viii) If he OR SHE is a defendant, the sentence which may be or has been imposed upon conviction; AND

(IX) IF HE OR SHE IS A DEFENDANT (A) WHO HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN CONVICTED OF A VIOLENT FELONY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 70.02 OF THE PENAL LAW, OR (B) CHARGED WITH ANY FELONY OFFENSE AND HE OR SHE HAS FAILED TO APPEAR IN COURT IN THE PAST WHEN CHARGED WITH A FELONY,

THE COURT MAY CONSIDER WHETHER THE NATURE AND SERIOUSNESS OF THE DANGER TO ANY PERSON OR THE COMMUNITY THAT WOULD BE POSED BY THE DEFENDANT'S RELEASE REQUIRES THE PREVENTIVE DETENTION OF THAT DEFENDANT.

(b) Where the principal is a defendant-appellant in a pending appeal from a judgment of conviction, the court must also consider the likelihood of ultimate reversal of the judgment. A determination that the appeal is palpably without merit alone justifies, but does not require, a denial of the application, regardless of any determination made with respect to the factors specified in paragraph (a) OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

3. When bail or recognizance is ordered, the court shall inform the principal, if he OR SHE is a defendant charged with the commission of a felony, that the release is conditional and that the court may revoke the order of release and commit the principal to the custody of the sheriff in accordance with the provisions of subdivision two of section 530.60 of this chapter if he OR SHE commits a subsequent felony while at liberty upon such order.

S 3. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.