



**DENVER**  
THE MILE HIGH CITY



# **CLASSIFICATION UNIT OVERVIEW**

## **CITY COUNCIL SAFETY, HOUSING, EDUCATION & HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE**

### **DENVER SHERIFF DEPARTMENT**

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- The Denver Sheriff Dept takes all possible steps to house inmates in the least restrictive and secure environment possible for all inmates by accessing them using assessment tools. This function is managed by the Classification Unit.
- Their primary role is to manage inmate movements while incarcerated at both jails. This includes accommodating jail housing capacity within:
  - Short-term to Long-term jail housing
  - Manage Restrictive Housing moves
  - Movements between the Downtown Detention Center and County Jail

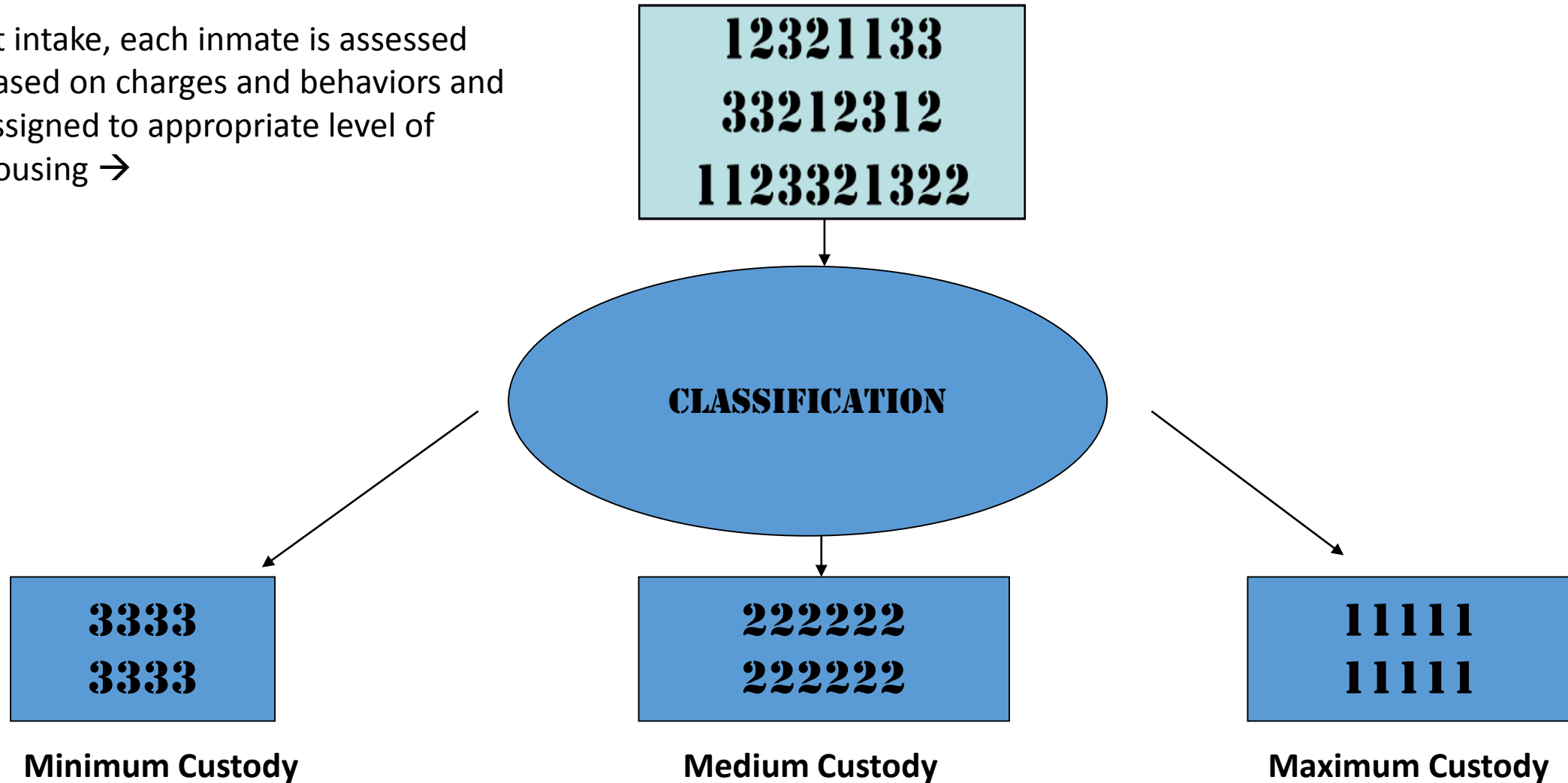
There are five levels of DSD Classification that are assessed based on inmate behavior, current and prior charges. The levels range from 1 – 5 with 1 & 2 as most restrictive (single cell, maximum lockdown) to 5 as least restrictive (an open dormitory setting). Depending on charge changes and behavior changes while incarcerated, inmates can move in between different classification levels. Below are descriptions of each:

- **Level 1** – Restrictive Housing 23 inmates to 1 Deputy Sheriff, housed in single cells, violent history, current violent charge, institutional violent behavior, high risk inmates. Charge example: Murder, Assault
- **Level 2** – Maximum Security, housed in single cells, past violent history, current violent history. Charge example: Murder, Assault
- **Level 3** - Medium Security, housed in 8 person pods with 8 pods in each unit (64 total) to 1 Deputy Sheriff, past violent felony, or a current violent felony charge, or violent institutional behavior. Charge example: Aggravated Robbery, Vehicular Assault, Assault 2
- **Level 4** – Low to Medium Security, housing open pod with 64 beds to 1 Deputy Sheriff, non-violent charges. Charge example: Drugs, Fugitive Holds, Driving Under Restraint, Parole Violation
- **Level 5** – Minimum Security, non-violent charges, housing open pods with 64 beds to 1 Deputy Sheriff. Charge example: DUI, Trespass, Shoplifting

# Example of DSD Classification Process

(numbers correspond to levels described in previous slide):

At intake, each inmate is assessed based on charges and behaviors and assigned to appropriate level of housing →



**DSD Primary Security Assessment:** the following checklist is used as a tool to determine appropriate level of housing assignment

**Book-in Checklist**

Inmate \_\_\_\_\_ Book-in Date \_\_\_\_\_

FBI # \_\_\_\_\_ SID \_\_\_\_\_

NCIC      yes    no      DOC # \_\_\_\_\_      yes    no

Current Charges – Assaultive Felony?      yes    no

Prior assaultive Felony Convictions      yes    no

DOC Institutional Behavior Problems (major)      yes    no

Escape History (Secure)      yes    no

3 or more prior Felony Convictions (5 years)      yes    no

Detainer or Holds other Jurisdictions?      yes    no

Is the inmate sentenced.      yes    no

Is inmate likely prison bound      yes    no

Is current offense felony or a misdemeanor      F      M

Does the inmate have community/family ties      yes    no

Separations \_\_\_\_\_

Special Management \_\_\_\_\_

Gangs \_\_\_\_\_ Precautions \_\_\_\_\_

Further questions or inquiries regarding the DSD Classification Unit can be directed to:

- Patrick Firman, Sheriff
  - 720-337-0095 or [Patrick.Firman@denvergov.org](mailto:Patrick.Firman@denvergov.org)
- Andrea Albo, Chief of Staff
  - 720-337-0283 or [Andrea.Albo@denvergov.org](mailto:Andrea.Albo@denvergov.org)