

Sex Offender Management Board Meeting
November 15, 2007
Meeting Minutes

Introduction/Updates

- Members of the board check-in:
 - Gerry Blasingame
 - Suzanne Brown-McBride
 - Brenda Epperly-Ellis
 - Peter Espinoza
 - Janet Gaard
 - Pam King
 - Sophia McBeth-Childs
 - Jerry Powers
 - Dave Runnels
 - Tom Tobin
 - Diane Webb
- Absent members:
 - Catherine Duggan
 - Michael Johnson
 - Nancy O'Malley
 - Shirley Poe

Minutes

- Corrections made to the last meeting's minutes.
- Motion to approve corrected minutes made, seconded, and approved.

State Update

- There was a 62 percent increase last month in people registering as transient (Los Angeles Police Department)
- As of yesterday, there were about 50 transient (on parole only) in Los Angeles County.

Sacramento State Research Contract

- Representatives from Sacramento State, including researchers, a psychologist, law professor, and a data analyst; introduce themselves.
- There are positive feelings with the Board's emerging relationship with Sacramento State.

Probation Survey Results

- 50 of 58 counties responded to the survey.
- Two of the still non-responding counties are particularly large and significant.
- There are 6700 sex offenders on probation, and 4600 are actually required to register.
- Only four or five counties are using GPS; GPS is still a relatively rare tool.

Website

- Board gets first look at the Web site, which is still under development.
- It will be at www.CASOMB.org, and for public access.

GPS Presentation

- Presenters: Dan Stone, CDCR Parole Administrator and Denise Milano, CDCR Parole Agent III.
- Basis of GPS is triangulation of radio signals, using satellites already in orbit. Provides information on location, direction and velocity of movement.

- Cell reception works in conjunction with GPS monitoring, so it is important to have reception. The quality of cell service varies in different locations.
- The GPS strap is water-resistant and transmits information about once a minute. The straps wear out after about 3 to 6 months but the unit lasts about 18 months before it requires routine maintenance.
- An important distinction is between active and passive GPS systems. Active GPS transmits its location at real-time intervals and is more expensive due to the immediate notification.
- No one currently has clear jurisdiction over GPS systems.

Presentation from Local Law Enforcement:

- Woodland Chief of Police, Carey Sullivan
- Placerville County Sheriff, Ed Bonner
- Both expressed concerns around local law enforcement taking on the responsibility of the lifetime GPS monitoring for sex offenders (Jessica's Law provision).
- Local law enforcement would require increased resources to provide:
 - Officer training
 - Hiring more officers to devote to the monitoring task
 - Money for GPS units and maintenance Improved technology (e.g. software for monitoring)
- Jurisdiction questions arise as well if local law enforcement will be required to monitor sex offenders post-supervision with GPS.
 - What happens if the sex offender travels from one part of California to the next? Will the officer monitoring need to contact law enforcement and send over the GPS monitoring information?
 - Will all local law enforcement agencies be required to have compatible systems and use similar GPS units just in case an offender moves or travels?
 - What are the consequences of an offender removing the GPS unit?
- The presenters also mentioned the role of local law enforcement will change if agencies begin to carry out the post-supervision GPS monitoring.
- Both presenters discuss the challenges list above if local law enforcement was deemed responsible for post-supervision GPS monitoring.

GPS Concerns/Issues

- Should there be GPS monitoring? If so, for how long? By whom?
- Projections: quantity of 290s, the costs of GPS implementation.
- Barriers: Lack of clarity about standing (no one has been designated), cost and reimbursement, multi-jurisdictional complexities, role consistency, and no sanctions for offender noncompliance.

Next Meeting

- Will be held December 20, 2007.
- Meeting will taking place from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM.