

GPS Tracking-USA

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◉ Marion County Community Corrections

Director: 1997 – 2008

➔ Programs:

- Work Release
- Day Reporting
- Home Detention (RF, GPS, Alcohol Monitoring)

◉ Grew Home Detention from 300 offenders to over 2,000 offenders

◉ Over 300 GPS units

◉ Marion County Sheriff's Department – Pre-Trial

➔ Jail Overcrowding Issues



Birth of GPS in Indianapolis

- Pre-GPS - County had successful RF program
 - ➔ 1000 units per day (20,000 offenders through program)
- RF used extensively for Jail Overcrowding
- Tragic Death - Domestic Violence on RF
- GPS introduced to supervise Domestic Violence Offenders
- GPS started in Indy 1999 –ten years ago



Myths about GPS



Not Air Traffic Control



GPS in Indianapolis

- GPS was very new to corrections and not fully understood.
- After the murder, GPS was an easy “sell”
 - ➔ Managing expectations was a difficult step
- Key steps:
 - ➔ Agency teamed with all criminal justice partners
 - ➔ Victim advocate groups
 - ➔ Media
 - Positive media coverage was important
 - Media outlets love stories on new and innovative technology



Myths of GPS



Not a Silver Bullet



Managing Expectations



- ◉ Educate STAFF
 - ➔ Most overlooked group – STAFF
- ◉ RF data focus is presence / absence / tamper only
- ◉ GPS data dissemination exponentially larger
 - ➔ Caseload sizes
 - ➔ Managing “non-believers”
 - ➔ Controlling zealots



Myths of GPS



GPS Tracking is not for all criminals or all situations



Indianapolis Experience



- ◉ Began GPS program using a pager system for violation notification
 - ➔ Ended after 50 total offenders on GPS
 - ➔ Pager was ineffective to manage data flow after work hours
 - ➔ Staff burn-out was rampant
- ◉ Built complete infrastructure to disseminate data
 - ➔ Monitoring Center
 - ➔ Management of data flow with 24 hour staff



USA reliance on GPS

- Why is there tremendous growth of GPS programs and usage in USA?
 - ➔ Politicians - “Hard on Criminal Laws”
 - ➔ New Sex offender, Domestic Violence and Stalking Laws
 - ➔ Lifetime monitoring laws
 - ➔ Layered supervision
 - 95 % of all criminals return to the community



Ideal Tracking Program



Reliable product / Well trained staff / Realistic expectations

