



January 14, 2022

Department of Public Safety
City Council Briefing Document
RFP #790A-2021
Offender Monitoring Products, Services and Solutions Briefing
Electronic Monitoring Services Briefing

Executive Summary

The Department of Safety (DOS) utilizes electronic monitoring technology (ankle monitors) to assist with supervision and case management for clients that are court ordered to the Electronic Monitoring Program (In-Home Detention) and Pretrial Services. The use of electronic monitoring allows these programs to provide safe alternatives to incarceration. Electronic monitoring as a strategy and tool coupled with client-focused, individualized case management strategies provides accountability for individuals released on bond while awaiting trial and for individuals referred in lieu of jail. There are multiple equipment types that support these services, ranging from Global Position Systems (GPS) to remote alcohol testing. These tools are utilized to restrict and monitor movements, support the enforcement of protection orders, monitor sobriety, and to assist with case management efficiencies.

Background

The City has utilized electronic monitoring services since 1994 for individuals sentenced by the Court directly to in-home detention as an alternative to serving a jail sentence or in combination of serving a jail sentence. Additionally, Judges in Denver use electronic monitoring as a strategy to monitor high risk defendants arrested for offenses under the Victim Rights Act (VRA).

Average Daily Population of individuals on electric monitoring

2019: 792

2020: 674

2021: 623

Private vendors supply the monitoring equipment, training, and infrastructure that allows the City to monitor individuals 24/7/365. City staff through DOS/Community Corrections are responsible to perform all case management and client interactions including equipment installation, activity and alert monitoring, violation response, and victim notification.

FAQs

Q: What are the benefits of electronic monitoring?

A: Benefits of monitoring:

- Promote community and victim safety
- Manage an individual in a community setting in lieu of incarceration
- Assist in the enforcement of Protection Orders
- Provide monitored sobriety for higher risk DUI offenders

Q: Who funds electronic monitoring:

A: These contracts are funded through the Dept, of Safety's approved annual General Fund budget allocation.

Q: What types of technology are used?

A:

- Global Positioning Systems (GPS) Monitoring: Programs utilize this device to monitor a client's location in near "real time" using GPS satellite technology. The equipment includes a one-piece ankle bracelet. Exclusion and/or Inclusion zones can be created and monitored. This technology can be utilized to assist in offenses where protective orders are in place.
- Alcohol Monitoring: Programs utilize a handheld device to breath test clients at various intervals throughout the day. When necessary, Pretrial utilizes the Trans dermal Alcohol devices to measure ethanol emitted through the skin.
- Radio Frequency (RF) Monitoring: Programs utilize this device to monitor post-conviction clients. The equipment includes both an ankle bracelet and a base station. Program staff will utilize the device to determine when a client leaves and returns to the location of the base station.

Q: What process was used to identify vendors?

A: Vendors were selected through a competitive bid process and the criteria to be used for the proposal evaluation included:

- Price
- Response to vendor questions/issues
- Technical merit
- Schedule
- Program management
- Quality considerations
- Responsiveness to contract provisions
- Other materials or equipment demos

Q: What is the role of the vendor?

A: Private vendors supply the monitoring equipment, training, and infrastructure that allows the City to monitor individuals 24/7/365. City staff are responsible for all interactions with clients and the public.

Q: What is the benefit to having multiple vendors?

A:

- Ability to provide the most effective solution for each client's unique needs.
- Ever changing technology allows for the City to get "best" solutions available on the market.
- Prevents potential risk in transition between vendors
- Alternative device availability when a vendor is experiencing technical issues
- To combat the impact on timely release and community safety, resolution would be in place to address product availability/demand issues with a vendor

Q: What other jurisdictions use BI?

A:

- Mesa County, Colorado Pretrial Services
- Colorado Department of Corrections
- Delaware Department of Corrections
- Alaska Department of Corrections
- Illinois Department of Corrections
- Missouri Department of Corrections
- Minnesota Department of Corrections
- Indiana Department of Corrections
- Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts
- North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Q: What other jurisdictions use AMS?

A:

- Mesa County, Colorado Pretrial Services
- Jefferson County, Colorado Pretrial Services
- Arapahoe County, Colorado Sheriff Department
- New Mexico Department of Corrections
- Ector County (Odessa, TX) Post Sentence Monitoring and Pretrial Services

Additional Materials

Please see the additional materials that accompany this Briefing Sheet:

- 1) DRMC authority to use electronic monitoring
- 2) PowerPoint Presentation

Points of Contact

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