

# GPS Tracking-USA

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# 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

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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

