

# MEDIA RELEASE

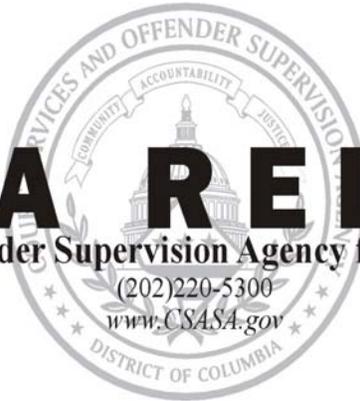
Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia

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www.CSASA.gov



## **600 Offenders Now on Satellite (GPS) Tracking in Washington, D.C.**

## **800 Offenders on Satellite Tracking Expected by the End of 2008**

## **Radio Program (podcast) on Satellite Tracking Available at <http://media.csosa.gov>**

For Immediate Release: March 31, 2008

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The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) has 600 offenders on satellite or GPS tracking daily. The terms satellite tracking and global positioning system (GPS) tracking are synonymous. CSOSA is a federal, executive branch agency providing parole and probation services to Washington, D.C.

Satellite tracking involves placing a device the size of a cell phone on the ankles of selected offenders. This technology provides Community Supervision Officers (referred to as parole and probation officers elsewhere) with the ability of tracking an offender's movements wherever he or she goes.

CSOSA places *select* sex, domestic violence, violent and non-violent offenders on GPS tracking. Offenders are placed on satellite tracking for public safety reasons or as a response to violations of rules or treatment requirements.

CSOSA also works with law enforcement agencies to monitor offenders currently on CSOSA's caseload who are in need of enhanced supervision for a variety of reasons.

Domestic violence offenders are placed on monitoring when there is the potential for a violation of stay-away orders from victims or are ordered by the judiciary as a condition of probation.

Categories of offenders on monitoring include (figures approximate):

1. Sex offenders: 50
2. Domestic violence offenders: 50
3. Violent offenders: 400
4. Non-violent offenders violating conditions of release: 50
5. Mental health caseload offenders that are violating conditions of release: 50

Community Supervision Officers track movements by reviewing GPS tracks on their computers on a daily basis during work hours. Special conditions can be set restricting offenders from certain sections of the city (i.e., sex offenders from playgrounds or school yards) or confinement at home.

Special emphasis is placed on offenders having prohibited interactions with victims or witnesses.

Satellite tracking is also useful in making sure offenders participate in required treatment programs.

GPS tracking places offenders at crime scenes. CSOSA works *daily* with the Metropolitan Police Department and other law enforcement agencies to match GPS coordinates with locations of crimes. Mapping technology allows CSOSA to create extremely detailed maps of locations and offender movements to aid in suspect apprehension.

Recent examples of the use of satellite tracking to apprehend crime suspects include the arrest of an offender wanted for two sex assaults against minor females in NW Washington, D.C. in February. Please see [www.csosa.gov](http://www.csosa.gov) for media coverage.

CSOSA expects to have 800 offenders on satellite tracking by the end of calendar year 2008.

### **Demonstration Available**

A demonstration of GPS technology is available on Wednesday, April 2 at 300 Indiana Ave, NW (MPD Police Headquarters and CSOSA offices) from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

For additional information, contact:

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