



CSOSA GPS Monitoring

The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) supervises adults on probation, parole, and supervised release in the District of Columbia. CSOSA's community supervision officers (CSOs) use a number of strategies to promote supervisees' compliance with the conditions of their release.

Global Positioning System (GPS) monitoring allows CSOs to effectively enforce court-imposed geographic restrictions, stay-away orders, curfews, and home confinement, and to track individuals whose risk assessment and behavior have indicated a need for a higher level of monitoring.

CSOSA's GPS Unit operates within the High Risk Management Strategies Division.

Supervisees are placed on GPS monitoring when it is ordered by the releasing authority or as a sanction for non-compliance. As a sanction, GPS is on the more stringent end of a series of graduated sanctions that can be imposed on a supervisee who is not complying with the requirements of supervision.

GPS data is accessible to local and national law enforcement agencies, including the Metropolitan Police Department and US Capitol Police.

While GPS can't prevent crime from occurring, it can help deter crime and aid investigations. Law enforcement agencies may use GPS data, along with ShotSpotter and other data points, to determine a supervisee's proximity to a crime. This helps investigators identify or eliminate CSOSA supervisees as potential suspects or persons of interest.

GPS MONITORING: HOW IT WORKS



A tamper-resistant GPS device is placed on the supervisee's ankle.



CSOs define the supervisee's travel zone, including boundaries, restricted areas, and curfew.



The GPS device stores the travel zone and constantly transmits a signal to register the supervisee's movement.



Satellites triangulate the GPS device's precise location.



Wi-fi and cellular signals provide an automatic back-up if the satellite signal becomes unavailable.



All movement is tracked and stored on the supervisee's record.



CSOs can monitor movements in real time or send an alert to a supervisee's GPS device.



A GPS device will vibrate when it receives an alert and if a violation is committed. Violations can include entering a restricted area and tampering with the unit.



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