

Readings for “Developing a Successful GPS Offender Tracking Program”

All of the readings for this course can be found in the www.correcttechllc.com website. The readings are located in the site’s “Education” section. Additional (optional) readings are located in the Electronic Monitoring Resource Center. This is a knowledge base website developed by the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) in Denver, CO. Because the website is designed to be a secure environment where correctional and law enforcement personnel can exchange sensitive information, the site is password protected. If you are not already registered and wish to be, you will need to submit an online registration form. A login and password will be e-mailed to you within 24 hours. Go to <https://emresourcecenter.nlectc.du.edu> and click on the “New User?” option to submit your application. Please provide your government e-mail address to facilitate your registration. Applications with personal e-mail addresses are reviewed more stringently and are often rejected. If you have any problems registering, please e-mail gbrake@comcast.net. There is no fee for this valuable resource and your registration information will be treated confidentially.

I. **Global Positioning System (GPS) Technology for Community Supervision: Lessons Learned** (Noblis Technical Report, 2006)

Self Assessment Questions

Chapter 1 (pages 1-1 to 1-6)

1. Considering the first intended uses for GPS, what challenges are inherent for using this technology for tracking offenders?

Chapter 2 (pages 2-1 to 2-12)

2. What factors should be considered before selecting the type(s) of GPS technology (active, passive or hybrid) to be utilized by an agency?
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II. **Monitoring Tennessee’s Sex Offenders Using the Global Positioning Systems: A Project Evaluation**

Read pages 1-22

Self Assessment Questions

1. The evaluation indicates the Tennessee program is not sustainable. Why did the report writer come to this conclusion?
 2. Does your EM program have these same pitfalls? How can they be avoided?
 3. The report discusses indirect fiscal impact to the State of Tennessee. List some of the unanticipated costs that the State of Tennessee experienced. Does your jurisdiction experience any unanticipated costs from your program?
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III. **Under Surveillance: An Empirical Test of the Effectiveness and Consequences of Electronic Monitoring** (Padgett, Bales and Blomberg for the University of Florida – 2003)

Read Pages 75-82

Self Assessment Questions

1. Overall, the study finds that offenders sentenced to home confinement were less likely to be revoked for technical violations if their supervision included some form of electronic monitoring (RF or GPS). However, those monitored with GPS were more likely to be revoked than those who were monitored with traditional RF equipment. Why are GPS monitored offenders more likely to be revoked for technical violations?
2. Discuss how the “surveillance effect” may impact an agency’s level of success in using GPS tracking as a means to reduce jail or prison overcrowding.

IV. **Using Offender Tracking Technology in Domestic Violence Cases** (Drake, George for the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center – Oct. 2007)

Read the four page article

Self Assessment Questions

1. What limitations in the current offender tracking systems should an agency consider prior to implementing offender tracking technology as a tool to protect victims?
 2. If a decision is made to use offender tracking technologies to protect victims, what might an agency include in their policies and procedures that both be helpful to the victim and limit liability to the agency?
 3. To determine if an offender is intentionally shielding his tracking device, what items should officers look for in the field?
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