

Survey to Chief APOs

Issue: Wrist GPS or RF device

Question (from Franklin & Fulton Counties)

Franklin and Fulton County are interested to see if any County uses any "wrist "GPS or RF device and what vendor they use for it. We also would like to hear about any issues or problems. We only need responses from Counties that have them.

Allegheny County

Ditto with Dauphin. We use the traditional ankle monitors. I am not aware of any company using a wrist version.

Chester County

We tested this product a few weeks ago. It seems to be comparable to the one worn on the ankle. Since a number of our Drug Court/Recovery Court participants wear SCRAM bracelets, the thought was they could wear this in lieu of wearing a bracelet on the opposite ankle. We anticipate rolling this out in the next month or so. Chris Pawlowski is coordinating this for the department.

Dauphin County

From my EM Supervisor: I have never heard of anyone making a wrist GPS device. I know Sentinel is in the process of developing their newest device, the OM600. That is an ankle device. As long as I have worked with electronic monitoring devices, every vendor has always recommended against putting any device on the wrist, due to the possibility of injury. If there are wrist GPS devices on the market, I have not heard of them.

Washington County

We use the Upstream device here in Washington County on a limited basis, i.e. Problem Solving Courts. It is a good fit to reduce stigma, use on non-violent recovering individuals, and for meeting reminders, positive reinforcement, and verification of the location that the individual reported to be at.

We still use standard leg attached devices for other offender bases, however, the wrist attached device has a space in my opinion for segments of the criminal justice population. Vigilnet is our provider, and they assisted in our roll-out of the product, i.e. when and who the recommended use was for.