

## Sentinel's Offender-Funded Programs Continue National Wave of Growing Success @ No Cost To Tax Payers

Los Angeles, Reno, Portland, Ft. Worth, Indianapolis & many others have followed suit

### The Issues

Sentinel Offender Services has actively provided a complete platform of technology-based and tactical, offender-funded, offenders to the Los Angeles County Probation Department since 1992. This program was the nation's lead offender-funded model to receive widespread positive recognition. Because this program was so successful, many agencies across the country have capitalized on the Sentinel model and have reaped the benefits. Participating Offenders pay for their specific participation, therefore, No Cost to Law Enforcement, the Courts or the Tax Payers. The following are brief summaries of a few of Sentinel's successes:

### Orange County, California

Orange County's initial program grew directly from the need to cut costs of existing probation services. Sentinel Offender Services first provided a Supervised Electronic Confinement (SEC) program, the goal of which was to monitor low-risk adult offenders already on probation.

Sentinel Offender Services has provided a valuable partnership to Orange County since 1993. Under the SEC, Sentinel Offender Services offered Orange County electronic monitoring, case management and Breath Alcohol Testing (BAT) at No Cost to taxpayers.

Offenders on this program using a sliding-fee scale to pay program pay a daily fee based on their ability to pay. We developed a sliding scale model that is County-approved for use. Orange County designates a cap on the size of this program and uses a set ratio of probation officers to offender cases. Sentinel Offender Services facilitates case management activities for Orange County based on direct instructions from the probation officers and courts. Part of each offender payment covers administrative costs incurred by the Orange County Probation Department. All at No Cost to the Probation Department and Tax Payers.

### New Hampshire Department of Corrections (NHDOC)

In 1998, Sentinel Offender Services won the contract for a statewide, offender-funded electronic monitoring program using Radio Frequency (RF) equipment. In 2001, NHDOC added Breath Alcohol Testing to the program. By 2006, the state wanted a Sentinel program that included Global Positioning Systems (GPS) tracking.

Early in the life of this contract, Sentinel moved in the direction of partnership. We approached NHDOC personnel with the concept of placing a local technician on-site to respond to equipment details, perform installation and removal of equipment, and handle fee payments. All at No Cost to the Local Tax Payers.

This program continues to operate effectively and has been further enhanced by our opening of an office in Concord, NH. This increased investment has allowed us to provide service to NHDOC after-hours and on weekends without entering a state office and without burdening state personnel. We committed to providing this level of service for another four years when we were again awarded a contract in January 2007.

### **San Bernardino County California Probation Department**

Sentinel provides case management, active and passive GPS tracking, Radio Frequency (RF) electronic monitoring, and equipment installation and removal, all under the offender-funded model. San Bernardino County announced in May 2005 that it would be the first county in the State of California to initiate a satellite-based tracking system for high-risk offenders. After competitive solicitation and evaluation, Sentinel won a contract to provide the county with all of the required services. The program was launched in June 2005 and has grown to meet the County's needs from our facility located in downtown San Bernardino. All services are provided at **No Cost** to the Probation Department or the Local Tax Payers.

### **Multnomah County (Oregon) Department of Community Justice**

The Multnomah County Department of Community Justice has two divisions: Adult Community Justice and Juvenile Community Justice.

The Sentinel office in Portland enrolls and monitors all clients in the full service adult program at **No Cost** to the Agency or the Local Tax Payers. Our sliding scale format is also in use at this office to assess daily program fees for all adult participants. A portion of the program is partially subsidized by the County. Multnomah County has case managers who enroll and monitor all the offenders in the juvenile program.

### **For more information, contact:**

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