

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
Pursuant to P.A. 124 of 2007
Section 608
GPS Electronic Tether Program

Section 608 of P.A. 124 of 2007 requires that the Department of Corrections provide a report for the GPS electronic tether program, including information on:

- Details on the failure rate of parolees for whom GPS tether is utilized, including the number and rate of parolee technical violations, including specifying failures due to committing a new crime that is uncharged but leads to parole termination, and the number and rate of parolee violators with new sentences.
- Information on the factors considered in determining whether an offender is placed on active GPS tether, passive GPS tether, radio frequency tether, or some combination of these or other types of electronic monitoring.
- Monthly data on the number of offenders on active GPS tether, passive GPS tether, radio frequency tether, and any other type of tether.

GPS Electronic Tether Program

The use of GPS monitoring allows for the tracking of parolee movement, either actively or passively, to determine compliance with supervision plans. To balance public safety interests and available resources, parolees released from prison on or after January 8, 2007, whose current offense requires registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act, shall be monitored on some form of electronic monitoring whenever practical. GPS monitoring may also be used in addition to RF monitoring as an intervention or sanction for non-compliance with the order for parole for parolees who have breaking and entering-type convictions.

Some type of electronic monitoring shall be used for all prisoners being granted parole for all offenses listed below, including Attempts and Conspiracies to Commit:

- Group 1: Criminal Sexual Conduct 1st Degree (any age victim) – “Active” GPS for a minimum of six (6) months, then “Passive” for the balance of the parole term¹.
- Group 2: Criminal Sexual Conduct 2nd Degree (victim under 13 years of age) or Criminal Sexual Conduct 3rd Degree (victim under 13 years of age) – “Passive” GPS for a minimum of twelve (12) months, then “RF” monitoring for the balance of the parole term¹.
- Group 3: Any other current offense which requires registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act (such as, but not limited to, Criminal Sexual Conduct 2nd Degree [victim 13 years of age or older], Criminal Sexual Conduct 3rd Degree [victim 13 years of age or older], Soliciting a Minor for Immoral Purposes, etc.) – “RF” monitoring for the first twelve (12) months of his/her term of parole, then removal from electronic monitoring provided that the parolee is in compliance with his/her supervision plan¹.

¹ Compliance with the supervision plan is defined as not in violation of the order for parole, special conditions, or the supervision plan, excluding having a balance owed on fees or restitution. Compliance must be for at least (90) ninety continuous days prior to consideration for a reduction in EM. Parolees not in compliance shall not be eligible for step-down processing.

During 2007, there were 335 GPS activations (217 “Active” and 118 “Passive). Of the 217 “Active” GPS activations, 21 (9.7%) resulted in technical violation failures while 1 (less than 0.5%) resulted in new sentence failures. Of the 118 “Passive” GPS activations, 8 (6.8%) resulted in technical violations failures while 1 (less than 1.0%) resulted in new sentence failures. In whole, the technical violation failure rate was 8.7% while the new sentence failure rate was less than 1.0% resulting in an overall failure rate of 9.3%.

Table 1 shows the 2007 end of month populations experienced by each of the Electronic Tether programs.

Table 1 – Monthly Electronic Tether Program Activity

	GPS		RF	Sobriotor	SCRAM
	Active	Passive			
Jan	5	3	1,612	296	133
Feb	19	10	1,592	296	144
Mar	28	20	1,707	277	152
Apr	33	26	1,777	297	145
May	52	39	1,759	260	149
Jun	73	46	1,831	287	170
Jul	83	51	1,912	321	157
Aug	96	58	1,988	354	174
Sep	110	57	2,032	364	185
Oct	118	62	2,032	343	187
Nov	124	73	2,001	319	192
Dec	135	70	1,958	316	201