



Sex Offender Parolees Fitted With GPS Devices Department Completes Task Six Months Early

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Public safety will be improved now that every California sex offender on parole is being tracked by GPS technology, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation said Monday.

A total of 6,622 parolees have been fitted with a GPS ankle bracelet, Secretary Matt Cate said.

“California is by far the nation’s leader when it comes to tracking sex offenders using GPS, and this massive effort will assist us in better monitoring the activities of sex offenders on parole and improving public safety,” Tom Hoffman, the Division of Adult Parole’s director, said.

Voters approved Jessica’s Law in 2006, which required that every paroled sex offender be monitored by GPS.

The department had originally projected to have every sex offender parolee monitored by June 2009, but was able to complete the task six months early.

Corrections officials said there’s 40 parolees assigned to one agent, and that parole agents handling high-risk offenders are each assigned 20 parolees.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger praised the department’s progress.

“Protecting our children and families from sexual predators is a priority, and with a GPS device on every sex offender on parole and parole agents monitoring these offenders aggressively, we will make our communities safer,” Schwarzenegger said in a statement.

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