

# **CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH**

**ALERT NOTIFICATION/GPS  
STATEWIDE EXPANSION UPDATE**

# **ALERT NOTIFICATION/GPS**

## **2023 SENATE BILL 5 (PUBLIC ACT 23-106)**

- An Act Strengthening the Protections Against and Response to Domestic Violence
- Mandates the Judicial Branch to expand the electronic monitoring pilot program for family violence offenders statewide by October 1, 2025
- After consultation with the Chief Court Administrator, Deputy Chief Court Administrator, and Chief Administrative Judge of Criminal Division- the Derby, Milford, and New Haven Courts were selected as the initial expansion sites
- To implement the program, many steps must be completed with internal and external stakeholders prior to an official start date

# Implementation Roll-Out Plan

## Expansion Completed:

- To the cities/towns that comprised Enfield GA Court (which became part of GA 14 in Hartford) - January 2023
  - Milford Court- November 1, 2023
  - Derby Court- November 15, 2023
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- New Haven – Proposed start date January 24, 2024
  - Next – Waterbury, Torrington, Danbury (first half of 2024)
  - Then to Middletown, Meriden, and New Britain (second half of 2024)
  - Finish with Manchester/Rockville and Norwich/New London and Stamford during 2025

# Ramp-Up to Implementation

Since July 1 to Present: Large System Meetings/Presentations:

- **Judicial Branch:**
  - Chief Court Administrator and JB-Leadership
  - JB- Court Operations Leadership (Clerk, Marshals)
  - JB- CSSD Leadership (Family Services, Pre-Trial Services/Bail)
- **Chief State's Attorney-** State's Attorney meeting presentation
- **Chief Public Defender-** Supervisors meeting presentation
- **CCADV-** Statewide meeting of FVVAs and separate meeting for Safe Connect staff
- **Law Enforcement-** Chief State's Attorney's Legislative meeting for law enforcement, 3 LAP Quarterly meetings, POST class offerings on AN/GPS for law enforcement, New Dispatcher Training presentation

# Ramp-Up to Implementation (Continued)

- Local Individual Meetings with CJ Partners:
  - Judges
  - Prosecutors
  - Public Defenders
  - Clerks
  - Marshals
  - FVAs
  - JB- Family Services and JB- Pre-Trial Services/Bail
  - Law Enforcement
- Local Implementation Team Meetings – most important meeting (s) of all - this is a large conference with everyone at the table discussing roll-out, issues, and decision-making

\*\*\* Completed for Derby, Milford and New Haven– will be replicated for all courts

# ALERT NOTIFICATION/GPS

## BACKGROUND / HISTORY

- Major recommendation from the 2010 Speaker of the House of Representatives' Task Force on Domestic Violence
- Established the utilization of GPS technology to provide warning/notification to victims of domestic violence that an offender is within a pre-determined area
- Three pilot locations began October 1, 2010 (Danielson, Bridgeport and Hartford). Operating fully in all three locations since 2012

# ALERT NOTIFICATION/GPS

## TECHNOLOGY

- Targets high risk domestic violence offenders (based on comprehensive risk assessment) charged with violating a restraining or protective order
- Victims should be willing to participate in the program by receiving alerts
- Enhances victim safety by providing notification so a pre-determined safety plan can be put into action
- Allows for mobile zones around the victim and stationary zones (home, work, and school)
- Sends violation alerts (with 24/7 monitoring center staff involvement) to a victim and local law enforcement

# Court Process and Response to Non-Compliance

- JB-CSSD Family Services notifies the Court for offenders who meet the statutory criteria for Alert Notification/GPS
- If the Court orders Alert Notification/GPS it is made a condition of bond and the protective order
- Sentinel Offender Services – installs and/or provides the device for both the offender (prior to leaving court or posting bond) and the victim
- Zone violations and other serious alerts are sent to CSSD-Family Services and the Court will be subsequently notified
- Typically, cases are re-docketed for the Judge and prosecutor to address the non-compliance

# Alerts to the Victim

- An alert will be sent to the victim if they carry a device or request that alerts be sent to their cell phones as follows:
  - There will be an automated call and/or text to victim's cell phone from the monitoring center telling them what type of alert has been detected
  
  - A live monitoring center operator will call victim cell phone and tell them about the alert and the defendant's last known location
  
  - When the alert has been resolved the victim will receive notice on their cell phone

# 911 NOTIFICATION

- ALERTS:
  - Stationary Exclusion
  - Mobile Exclusion
  - Device Tamper
  - Loss of Communication/No Location