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Court Programs/Secure Alert

Since 2006 Mr. Batchelor has been an integral part of our efforts to provide advanced offender monitoring programs to the Criminal Justice Community throughout Orange County, Florida. Mr. Batchelor's efforts have resulted in the initiation of many proactive programs being utilized to improve public safety and accountability to the Courts for offender management.

- David Rothbart, CEO, Court Programs, Inc.

Court Programs/Secure Alert is a company that provides GPS monitoring devices to defendants in the court system. I was hired to help them establish stronger relationships with law enforcement, corrections, and the judiciary. This involved setting up meetings with a number of judges, including the chief judge, and working to secure judicial orders addressing ways in which the program could work in the interest of both the court and my client.

Working primarily with the judiciary, I helped them to understand that GPS monitoring, in lieu of secure detention, is an additional cost-effective option the judges can have.

Additionally, I helped the client understand the public policy implications of GPS monitoring. Doing so helped them to communicate the importance of their program to other governmental bodies, such as the Orange County Commission. The message was simple and effective: with GPS monitoring as one more arrow in the quiver of the judiciary, defendants in the court system can now be monitored at substantially less cost to the taxpayers.

In working with the Orange County Department of Corrections, I also helped Court Programs ensure there would be a specific place in the County Jail where the devices could be secured on a defendant before they are released. Unfortunately, it used to be such that the Court Programs employee would have to cross a six-lane highway to get defendants (some of whom had very serious, sometimes violent charges) and walk them back across the six lanes of traffic to their office before they could secure the monitoring device to the defendant.

Working with Orange County Corrections, I helped them understand the security risks that were involved. With my help, they then gave Court Programs a space in the jail where the GPS monitoring device could be secured to defendants before they are actually released – closing a dangerous loophole and keeping them under continuous supervision.

– Dick Batchelor

Dick J. Batchelor, Michael J. Murphy, and Dustin A. Watkins prepared this case. DBMG cases are developed solely as the basis for marketing. Cases are not intended to serve as endorsements, sources of primary data, or illustrations of effective or ineffective management.

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