

# NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN CORRECTIONS



**GEORGIA**  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

## STAFF EQUIPMENT

### CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS

- iPhone technology provides a strong and extensive base of communications, comprehensively supporting Facilities Operations via:
  - Text messaging
  - Email
  - Voice communications
  - Internet access
  - Calendar options
  - Organizational tools
  - Access to Georgia GDC secured offender information database

### TASER X2

- Electroshock device that uses electrical current to disrupt voluntary control of muscles causing temporary neuromuscular incapacitation
- Implemented "Taser X2" in facilities to reduce staff injury and aid as a deterrent

## OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

### CELLULAR PHONE ACCESS MANAGEMENT

- Cell-Sense Device prohibits unlawfully possessed cell phones from operating within a facility
- Portable, full-body scanner
- Able to detect cell phones; whether turned on or off, as well as other metallic contraband concealed on the body
- Implemented at facilities to detect contraband during mass movement, searches, and routine checks

### SENTENCING

- The Department is currently involved in several initiatives that will collect and deliver information earlier in the sentencing process

### NEXT GENERATION ASSESSMENT

- Implemented to replace paper and pencil assessments, thus reducing human error, skewed offender responses, and the amount of time needed to fill out an assessment
- Conceptualized in 2011; GDC partnered with Applied Research Services (ARS) to develop
- Takes information from a number of sources and uses technology and the science of mathematical algorithms to assess an offender's risk and needs quickly
- NGA is a building block for the Pre-Sentence Assessment (PSA) the ability to scan visitors for active warrants and/or if the visitor is on parole or probation

## MISSION

The Georgia Department of Corrections protects the public by operating safe and secure facilities through the development of professional staff and effective offender management.

**Timothy C. Ward**, Commissioner  
**Ahmed Holt**, Assistant Commissioner Facilities Division

## SECURITY EQUIPMENT

### INFRARED CAMERAS

- Able to view and detect heat signatures from objects, animals, and people during all hours of the day
- Once image is detected, the camera sends an alert for response to investigate
- Implemented around perimeter of facilities

### THOROUGH BODY SCANNER

- Low dosage, through body, x-ray scanner used to scan staff and visitors upon entry into facility for detection of contraband
- Compliant with Federal Drug Administration (FDA) regulations and the American International Standard for Radiation Safety for Personal Security Screening Systems
- Implemented at several facilities

### RAPID ID MACHINES

- Hand-held finger print identification devices used in facilities operations
- Wireless communications with the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC)
- Allows front entry correctional officers at state prisons the ability to scan visitors for active warrants and/or if the visitor is on parole or probation

### VISITOR PHOTO ID

- Each facility uses a mobile device to take pictures of visitors who are approved contacts for offenders
- Photo will be uploaded to SCRIBE under an offender's visitor contact list

