

Roy Cooper, Governor

Todd Ishee, Secretary

MEMORANDUM

| To: | Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety |
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| From: | Todd Ishee, Secretary |
| Subject: | Report on Request for Proposals for Technology Upgrades |

Date: November 5, 2024

Pursuant to S.L. 2023-134, Section 19B.5.(b), The Department of Adult Correction shall, in consultation with the vendor, report on the expenditure of funds awarded to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety no later than October 1 of each year on expenditure of the funds awarded for products and/or services capable of:

- a. Tracking all phones and other wireless devices within a State prison.
- b. Blocking the use of contraband phones and other wireless devices within a State prison.
- c. Broadcasting a secure, private long-term evolution (LTE) network.
- d. Creating a virtual bank account for each inmate that allows approved friends or family members to send or receive money to and from the account.
- e. Providing a single sign-on management platform.

The report required from subsection (b) of this section shall include, at a minimum, each of the following:

- 1. A timeline of the deployment of products and services
- 2. An explanation of the implementation of the awarded contract
- 3. An accounting of the extent to which tracking and blocking technologies were able to successfully track and block phones and wireless devices in State prisons.
- 4. An accounting of the extent to which the private long-term evolution network met the needs of State prisons.
- 5. An accounting of the extent to which the virtual bank accounts of inmates were utilized by inmates, their friends, and their family members.

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Two vendors were awarded with contracts regarding technology for blocked and tracked wireless devices. Listed below are the vendors and total amounts awarded:

1. ViaPath – Total Award: \$10,728,150.15 Total Expensed to date: \$8,166,156.39

- a. ShawnTech Mobile Cellular Scans at Four Facilities The scan sites have estimated completion dates as follows:
 - Site 1: Medium and Minimum Custody Facility October 28, 2024
 - Site 2: Close and Minimum Custody Facility
 - Site 3: Medium Custody Facility

December 18, 2024 December 26, 2024 December 31, 2024

Site 4: Medium Custody Facility

b. ViaPath and ShawnTech have submitted detailed proposals for the installation of 86 thermal cameras to improve perimeter security at 6 facilities. The total cost for this project is \$1,592,499.25. Once this project has been approved by the Department of Information Technology, DAC plans to move forward with the purchase of the cameras. The facilities identified for this project are:

- Site 1: Close and Medium Custody Facility
- Site 2: Close and Medium Custody Facility
- Site 3: Close, Medium, and Minimum Custody Facility
- Site 4: Close and Minimum Custody Facility
- Site 5: Medium and Minimum Custody Facility
- Site 6: Close, Medium, and Minimum Custody Facility

2. Securus – Total Award: \$8,451,512.00 Total Expensed to date: \$3,316,000.00

- a. Managed Access Systems at Four Facilities: Currently two sites are operational, and two sites are still under construction and are not operational. The projected start date for the third site is December 23, 2024, and the projected start date for the fourth site is February 10, 2025. The completion date for systems have been delayed due to the installation of electrical cable and fiber optics cable.
 - Site 1: Close and Medium Custody Facility
 - Site 2: Close, Medium, and Minimum Custody Facility
 - Site 3: Close and Medium Custody Facility
 - Site 4: Close and Minimum Custody Facility

Accounting of Private LTE Network:

• No contract was awarded for private LTE networks.

Accounting of Virtual Bank Accounts:

- The Virtual Bank Account portion of the RFP was awarded to ViaPath Technologies. The cost of the contract is \$0.00 as it is a no cost contract and profit is gathered from fees transferred to the depositors. ViaPath Banking Services started on August 1st, 2023, as planned.
- During the timeframe of August 2023 to August 2024 ViaPath reported the following statistics for total payments by portal were as follows: 61% Mobile App, 34% Website, 3% Telephone, 1% Money Order and 1% Western Union. ViaPath reported that \$32,888,958 worth of deposits to offender's accounts were processed during this time.

Remaining Funding: The Department is withholding the remaining funding for any additional installation or construction expenses. If the funding is not needed for installation or constructions costs, the Department plans to purchase additional ShawnTech Mobile Cellular Scans.