



Michigan Department of Corrections

SCRAM_x in Departments of Correction

Addressing Justice Challenges

Hard hit by repercussions from shrinking budgets and overcrowded prisons, the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) put a stake in the ground and committed to prisoner re-entry programming as “the new way of doing business in Michigan.” In collaboration with the Council of State Governments, the State implemented sentencing and policy reforms, then launched the Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative (MPRI) in 2004. Since then, the MPRI has enabled MDOC to eliminate 7,500 prison beds, reduce recidivism, and dramatically cut costs while enhancing public safety.

A key reason for these results is the MPRI's comprehensive, yet individualized, case management strategy. The backbone of this strategy is the Transition Accountability Plan (TAP). Used across diverse offender populations, TAPs are:

- Implemented in collaboration with the offender, corrections, the community, and service providers
- Continually re-assessed, amended, and aligned to ongoing rehabilitative needs
- Applied throughout incarceration, community supervision, and discharge and aftercare

“Reprogramming” Alcohol Offenders

When prisoners with drunk driving and other alcohol-related convictions near the end of their incarceration periods, their TAP may include parole board recommendations for enrollment in the Safe and Sober program as a prerequisite for re-entry. This transitional program – now in its second year of successful operation – is overseen by MDOC's Substance Abuse Services and includes:

- 4 - 6 months of residential treatment based on a rehabilitative curriculum for impaired-driving offenders
- Cognitive restructuring and role playing to help offenders:
 - Understand criminology of behavioral choices
 - Change approaches to decision making and social responsibility
- A balance of therapeutic and correctional interventions to prevent relapses

Using SCRAM for Accountability

Upon completion of the Safe and Sober program, participants transition from residential custody and are paroled under community supervision. During this phase, each parolee must wear a SCRAM® (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor) bracelet. By promoting continuous accountability, SCRAM empowers offenders to sustain the sobriety and behavioral changes they gain in Safe and Sober and stay on track for long-term recovery. An offender's duration on SCRAM is based on the circumstances of his or her arrest and conviction, as follows:

- Drinking/driving offense involving death or BAC > 0.24 = SCRAM for the entire supervision term
- Drinking/driving offense involving BAC < 0.23 = SCRAM for first 6 months
- Other duration based on special TAP recommendations

Officers from MDOC's local field offices install the SCRAM bracelet on all parolees transitioning from the Safe and Sober program. As an early adopter of SCRAM technology, however, MDOC has also used SCRAM as an alternative to incarceration for many other alcohol offenders. This includes participants from other MDOC programs, as well as probationers who are referred from circuit court judges across the state.

Enhancing Community Supervision

Whether monitoring participants from the Safe and Sober program or parolees and probationers from other programs, MDOC has used SCRAM for nearly eight years to:

- Assess individuals' drinking patterns and adjust supervision accordingly
- Monitor more than 6,000 total offenders, with daily averages of 500 offenders
- Drive an overall compliance rate of 70% (no drinking or tampers)
- Realize an alcohol compliance rate of 90%
- Save significant dollars by shortening prison stays that average \$78/day
- Support behavioral change objectives of re-entry programs for safe and sober outcomes

SCRAM_x Helps Transitioning Alcohol Offenders to Re-enter and Recover – Safely and Successfully

More than 650,000 men and women are released from state and federal prisons each year. As mounting fiscal pressures drive states to release inmates at even greater rates – it's not surprising that prisoner re-entry is a major priority for DOCs across the country.

For the alcohol-involved portion of a DOC's supervised population, SCRAM_x[®] (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor) supports state re-entry objectives by enabling individuals to reintegrate into society while mitigating the risk of future offenses. By monitoring for alcohol consumption 24/7 SCRAM_x helps DOCs to:

- Drive evidence-based accountability
- Make the most efficient use of state and tax-funded resources
- Administer supervision programs that safely ease jail overcrowding, and support flexible sanctioning options
- Rely on a court-validated and widely-used technology from the CAM industry leader
 - More than 165,000 offenders monitored since 2003
 - 82 evidentiary hearings
 - 32 hearings resulting in Frye/Daubert rulings
 - 1 State Supreme Court and 1 State Appellate Court rulings
- Facilitate rehabilitation and long-term recovery when combined with treatment
- Reduce recidivism



As DOCs strive to reduce prison populations, save taxpayer dollars, and enhance public safety, SCRAM_x helps effectively manage alcohol offenders while holding them accountable and promoting their success.

