

Technology in the 21st Century Probation Milieu: Some Assembly Required

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Overcrowding of offenders in the community is a dilemma faced by probation agencies throughout the nation. The 21ST century is several years away and planning is needed to effectively manage excessive caseloads in order to protect the public. This paper describes a fresh means of supervision methodology and the joining of the prevailing technology and the imminent technology of the 21ST century.

The paper also reviews a number of technological devices, tools and innovative methods, that would assist probation officers in the supervision of offenders, which are being tested in Florida by the Department of Corrections, Probation and Parole Services. The ground work is laid out for the future of caseload management. Managers and staff need to determine the route to take in this venture of technology into the 21ST century so that the citizenry is safe and appropriate intervention techniques are utilized with offenders under community supervision.