



Judiciary Interim Committee

Probation and Parole Absconders

June 16, 2021



Overview



- Mission of Utah Department of Corrections
- Challenges in Community Supervision
- Adult Probation & Parole Response to Absconding
- Questions

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Mission of Utah Department of Corrections

Our dedicated team of professionals ensures public safety by effectively managing offenders while maintaining close collaboration with partner agencies and the community. Our team is devoted to providing maximum opportunities for offenders to make lasting changes through accountability, treatment, education, and positive reinforcement within a safe environment.

Key statutory duties outlined in UCA § 64-13-6

- Protect the public
- Provide evidence-based and evidence-informed program opportunities
- Supervise probationers and parolees
- Collaborate with other state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies
- Establish a case action plan

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Challenges in Community Supervision

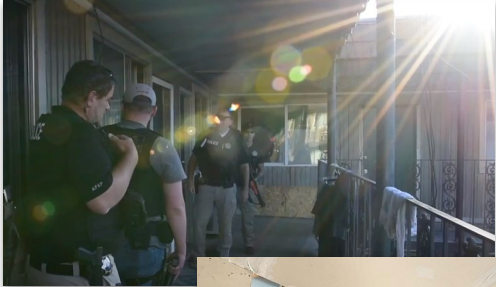
- Complex social issues with multiple agencies involved
- Assessed risk levels for those on AP&P supervision has been increasing
 - More higher risk individuals on supervision and fewer low risk individuals
 - Higher risk individuals require more case planning, interventions and are more likely to violate terms of supervision (e.g. absconding)
- Agent workload intensity is increasing, even as total caseload declines
 - Risk adjusted caseload

Challenges in Community Supervision



- Individuals on probation or parole continue to have underlying issues, including antisocial characteristics / substance use disorders
- Absconding is potential factor whenever people are placed on supervision
- People on probation or parole enter an agreement with terms and conditions
- Temporary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to supervision

AP&P Response to Absconding



- POST certification - AP&P agents are law enforcement officers
 - 347 agents & senior agents (*July 2021*), 143 correctional officers, 58 supervisors
 - Also trained in evidence-based practices for community corrections
- Resource increases from 2015 to 2021 - additional 54 AP&P agents
- Collaboration with stakeholders, data sharing & evaluation

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AP&P Response to Absconding



- Fugitive response teams - all five regions of the state
- Special functions unit - list warrants and extradite parole fugitives
- Task force operations - agents assigned to local, state and federal multi-jurisdictional teams
- Partnership with US Marshals (VFAST) - 23 part-time and one full-time



Questions

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