

**MEMORANDUM  
PROBATION DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF PLACER**

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:**  Marshall Hopper, Chief Probation Officer

**DATE:** October 8, 2013

**SUBJECT: Authorize the Chair to execute a contract between the Probation Department and Fieldware LLC, for the provision of an automated callout services system called OffenderLink**

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

1. Authorize the Chair to execute a contract between the Probation Department and Fieldware LLC, for the provision of an automated callout services system called OffenderLink, and
2. Authorize the Chief Probation Officer to execute this contract, as well as each of four annual renewal contracts at the Chief's discretion each year through June 30, 2018. The original contract term for this agreement is from October 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

**BACKGROUND**

Probationers are required by Court order to report to the Probation Officer as directed during the term of their probation. Historically, this has included the submission of a written form, a telephone contact, a home visit by the Probation Officer, or an office visit by the probationer. Probation has been contracting for an automated reporting system using OffenderLink and integrated with Probation's case management system since 2011. That call-in service shall remain in place as originally approved by the Board in August 2011.

The callout service shall be initially used in conjunction with Probation's Pre-trial Alternative Sentencing Unit to insure compliance with this program. Offenders would receive an automated call reminding them of upcoming Court appearances. Probation would be charged no more than \$2 per month, per offender for this service. Total expenditures are estimated to be under \$10,000 in the first year and under \$15,000 in subsequent years. This type of service has been shown to decrease failures to appear and reduce system wide costs associated with those failures to appear. Use of this system may be expanded in the future to further aid Probation programs. The service also provides the ability to facilitate callouts for Spanish speaking clientele. As noted, OffenderLink is electronically interfaced with the Probation Department's current case management system, reducing redundant data entry for Probation staff.

Placer County Probation has been implementing services that support internal evidence-based practices (EBP) initiatives. OffenderLink has enabled allocating more officer resources to higher risk cases, a core EBP principle. Ease of use for offenders combined with greater accountability results in compliance rates consistently in excess of 95%.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There will be no additional fiscal impact to the County, as costs associated with this system were included in the fiscal year 2013 – 2014 final budget.

The contract is on file with the Clerk of the Board for your review.

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