

NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Commissioner Claire DeMatteis

Presented by Jason P. Miller, Chief of Communications and Community Relations

245 McKee Road | Dover, DE 19904 | Office: 302.857.5232 | jason.miller@delaware.gov

Probation and Parole partners with state and local law enforcement to keep communities safer

Dover, DE – Today the Delaware Department of Correction released **a Report** that details how Delaware Probation and Parole works collaboratively with law enforcement partners to meet its dual mission of reentry and public safety. Effective partnerships among Probation & Parole, Delaware State Police, and local police agencies through *Operation Safe Streets* and the *Governor's Task Force* (OSS/GTF) help keep Delawareans safe, particularly in high-crime communities, by enhancing offender compliance with community supervision and providing incentives to probationers to successfully complete their court-ordered sentence.

OSS/GTF operations supplement Probation and Parole's ongoing probationer supervision efforts by focusing on high-risk criminal behavior through compliance checks, new and serious criminal offenses including illegal weapons and drug-related offenses, and supplemental investigative work through contact with probationers and community members. **This law enforcement support helps probation officers more thoroughly implement a 'reward system' of Graduated Incentives for probationers who are found to be engaging in pro-social activities and in compliance with the terms of their probation.**

"This report demonstrates the balanced approach of officers involved in Operation Safe Streets and the Governor's Task Force - giving second and third chances to offenders who are trying to turn their lives around, while getting violent offenders, illegal guns and drugs off our streets to protect our communities," **Commissioner Claire DeMatteis said.** "Probation and Parole Officers and our law enforcement partners give their best every day in often dangerous situations. Data summarized in this report shows how officers are committed to carry out their dual roles of public safety and reentry through successful completion of probation."

Read the full report [by clicking HERE](#).

Highlights of achievements during 2020 in *Probation and Parole partnership with Operation Safe Streets and Governor's Task Force*:

- 9,672 probationer curfew checks were conducted, revealing 65% compliance.

- 327 Administrative Warrants were executed which immediately return a probationer to DOC custody for non-compliance. The 25:1 ratio of curfew checks vs. administrative warrants demonstrates that the primary focus of OSS/GTF is to perform compliance checks over making arrests.
- 96% of Administrative Warrants included a new criminal offense.
- 62% of Administrative Warrants included a possession of a firearm or deadly weapon.
- 4% of Administrative Warrants cited only a technical violation of probation.
- Less than 1% of OSS/GTF Administrative Warrants were due only to curfew non-compliance.
- Less than 10% of Violation of Probation filings included a curfew violation by Level I – III probationers.
- OSS/GTF operations represent only a small fraction (approximately 5%) of Probation and Parole Officers.