

WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE NEWS MEDIA RELEASE		NEWS RELEASE NUMBER 2017-053
INFORMATION: INMATE TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES RECOMMENDATION		
DATE: JULY 13, 2017	TIME: 2 P.M.	PAGE 1 OF 1

THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION ARE RECOMMENDING THE COUNTY BOARD ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GLOBAL TEL*LINK (GTL) TO PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES TO INMATES IN THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY JAIL.

ILLINOIS JAIL STANDARDS ENTITLES INMATES ACCESS TO TELEPHONE SERVICE. ON MAY 25TH, 2017, AT THE REQUEST OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, THE COUNTY BOARD APPROVED THE TERMINATION OF THE CONTRACT WITH THE CURRENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDER DUE TO SIGNIFICANT SERVICE AND EQUIPMENT ERRORS. THIS REQUIRED THAT THE COUNTY EXPLORE NEW PROVIDERS AND TECHNOLOGIES.

GLOBAL TEL*LINK (GTL) OFFERS PORTABLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY TO MEET STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS, AS WELL AS IMPROVE INMATE AND OFFICER SAFETY, PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL, TRAINING, AND SOCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMS, RELIEVE STAFFING REQUIREMENTS, AND OFFERS GENERAL FUND BUDGET RELIEF. GTL IS A HIGHLY REPUTABLE PROVIDER WITH NUMEROUS FEDERAL AND STATE PRISONS, AND LOCAL CITY AND COUNTY JAILS AS CUSTOMERS.

GTL'S PROPOSAL OFFERS SERVICE, EQUIPMENT, AND MAINTENANCE AT NO COST TO TAXPAYERS. THE TECHNOLOGY MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL STATUTORY COMPLIANCE AND SERVES AS A RISK MANAGEMENT TOOL. ACCORDING TO PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, DEVICES HAVE SHOWN THAT THEY REDUCE "INMATE-ON-OFFICER ATTACKS" BY NEARLY 40%; INMATE ON INMATE FIGHTS AND ATTACKS ARE ALSO DOWN BY 40%; AND INMATE SUICIDES ARE REDUCED BY 80%.

THE WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES WILL BE SUPPLIED AT A ONE-TO-ONE RATIO FOR INMATES IN GENERAL HOUSING. THEY ARE CONTROLLED BY CORRECTIONS STAFF AND CAN BE SHUT OFF REMOTELY OR REMOVED FOR BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT. THE EQUIPMENT IS DESIGNED AND TESTED IN FOR THE CORRECTIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND DOES NOT PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE EXTERNAL, WORLDWIDE WEB.

A DEMONSTRATION BY GTL WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 19TH, 2017 AT 5:30 P.M.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> : SHERIFF : CHIEF DEPUTY : DEPUTY CHIEF OF DETECTIVE BUREAU : DEPUTY CHIEF OF PATROL BUREAU : DEPUTY CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU : DEPUTY CHIEF OF SUPPORT SERVICES : SUPERINTENDENT OF CORRECTIONS : ACCREDITATION MANAGER 	<hr/> SHERIFF GARY CARUANA <hr/> SUPERVISOR AUTHORIZING RELEASE
	DATE: <u>07/13/17</u> TIME: <u>1400</u> HOURS