



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

File #: 22-5619, **Version:** 1

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A FULL AUDIT OF THE COOK COUNTY COURT SYSTEM'S SECURE REMOTE CONTINUOUS ALCOHOL MONITORING (SCRAM) PROGRAM AND AN INDEPENDENT STUDY OF SCRAM EFFICACY AND PROGRAM ALTERNATIVES

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Committee of the Cook County Board of Commissioners held a hearing to discuss the use of SCRAM devices, best practices for monitoring and accountability when issuing SCRAM devices, and contract provisions with vendor CAM Systems and/or any other SCRAM vendors; and

WHEREAS, the contract approved in December 2016 between Nienhouse Media, Inc., d/b/a CAM Systems and the Office of the Chief Judge provided that the "Cook County Auditor or any of its duly authorized representatives shall, until expiration of three (3) years after the final payment under the Contract, have access and the right to examine any books, documents, papers, canceled checks, bank statements, purveyor's and other invoices, and records of the Consultant related to the Contract, or to Consultant's compliance with any term, condition or provision thereof. The Consultant shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining records sufficient to document the costs associated with performance under the terms of this Contract;" and

WHEREAS, alcohol monitoring policies, an issue of not only public safety but also addiction treatment, must ultimately prioritize both fairness and justice. Cook County has the responsibility to ensure that drunk driving incidents are fairly adjudicated and that monitoring devices distributed to defendants prevent repeat offenses.

WHEREAS, there still remain questions from the Cook County Board and criminal justice stakeholders regarding the Cook County court system's use of SCRAM and the contract with CAM Systems, general efficacy of SCRAM devices, and rehabilitation protocols for alcohol-related crimes.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in order to gain a full and transparent understanding of the County's SCRAM program, related financial data, and contract provisions, the Cook County Auditor should perform a full audit of CAM Systems business and all relevant financial data in Cook County from 2017 to present; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in order to ensure that perpetrators of alcohol-related crimes are given effective mechanisms for rehabilitation, Cook County shall commission an independent study about the efficacy of SCRAM devices and alternative alcohol monitoring programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cook County Auditor and any vendor commissioned for an independent study shall complete their audit and independent study and issue a report to the President and the Board prior to the approval of any new contract that includes SCRAM..