

# County of Santa Clara

## Office of the Sheriff

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*Sheriff*



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mike Wasserman, President, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Lt. Gill #10437, Custody Bureau - Programs Unit  
**DATE:** August 22, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Report Back RE: August 4, 2022, PSJC Referral Item #4

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During the August 4, 2022, meeting of the Public Safety and Justice Committee (Item #4), Supervisor Ellenberg requested additional information regarding two programs offered by the Sheriff's Office - Custody Alternative Supervision Unit/Electronic Monitoring Program (CASU/EMP) and the Milestone Program.

### **Custody Alternative Supervision Unit/Electronic Monitoring Program:** *(Out-of-custody Program)*

This is an out-of-custody program that consists of home-based electronic monitoring. The program was initiated at the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic as a mechanism to reduce the jail population.

When enrolled in the CASU/EMP Program, individuals are thoroughly screened and assessed by the Custody Bureau's Program Unit Rehabilitation Officer's (RO) for eligibility. The RO's are specially trained to screen with the goal of maximizing participation in the program. The EMP screening process ensures that participants have non-serious, non-sexual, and non-violent offenses, as well as, positive behavior while in custody.

Since its inception, the Sheriff's Office has enhanced the EMP screening process to include:

- Criteria further refined to be more inclusive (case by case basis).
- Authorized overtime for screeners to account for short staffing.
- Developed a partnership with Behavioral Health – Evans Lane
- Informing the public and the Courts about the Sheriff's Office EMP option.

Participants are transitioned back into the community through a series of courses provided to them at the Re-Entry Resource Center (RRC). These courses are part of the program's required attendance for the first six weeks. The RRC also offers participants rehabilitative classes, a connection with peer groups, the opportunity to work with service navigators and others for assistance with Social Services benefits, employment, and other resources.

**Vocational on-the-job training Milestone Program:**

*(In-custody Program)*

Milestone credits are offered to individuals who are currently in custody and sentenced to county jail. Through this program, individuals who participate in program courses and vocational on-the-job training are eligible for a seven (7) day reduction in their sentence for every sixty (60) days of course participation. The Milestone Program was adopted in accordance with California Penal Code Section 4019.4. Credits from this program can be combined with half-time credits given by the courts to further reduce the amount of time an individual is incarcerated. The Custody Bureau's Programs Unit is assessing its ability to provide this program more broadly in our jail system.