



Key Facts about Electronic Monitoring in Cook County

House arrest with electronic monitoring is a condition of pretrial release for more than 2,000 people in Cook County. In 2022, the Pretrial Fairness Act expanded the rights of people on electronic monitoring and ensured that they are able to leave their homes twice a week to perform basic tasks like grocery shopping, going to a laundromat, attending medical appointments, and securing employment.

Maintaining these provisions is vital to protecting people's human rights while they are on electronic monitoring. People confined to their homes need to have access to food, medical care, and the means to provide for themselves and their families.

Below are some key facts about the Cook County Sheriff's electronic monitoring program:

1

The vast majority of people released on electronic monitoring abide by all the rules and are not arrested for a new crime.

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2

Most people on electronic monitoring are facing charges that do not involve hurting or attempting to hurt someone else.

[— read more](#) 

3

People on electronic monitoring are GPS tracked 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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4

People already face serious consequences when they violate the rules of electronic monitoring.

[— read more](#) 

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 **Coalition to End Money Bond**

1 The vast majority of people released on electronic monitoring abide by all the rules and are not arrested for a new crime.

91% of people released on Cook County Sheriff's electronic monitoring in Chicago completed their terms of EM without any violations or new arrests. Only 1.75% of people were re-arrested for a serious felony while on electronic monitoring.

2 Most people on electronic monitoring are facing charges that do not involve hurting or attempting to hurt someone else.

Two-thirds of people on Cook County Sheriff's electronic monitoring are accused of crimes that do not involve any harm or threat of harm to another person.

3 People on electronic monitoring are GPS tracked 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

People on Cook County Sheriff's electronic monitoring are always GPS tracked by a band attached to their ankle. Even when people on electronic monitoring are outside of their homes, the Sheriff has access to real time information about exactly where they are. That information is stored in case it ever needs to be used to determine someone's whereabouts.

4 People already face serious consequences when they violate the rules of electronic monitoring.

When someone violates the conditions of their electronic monitoring, they face a number of serious consequences:

- 1) In Cook County, they can be immediately re-incarcerated by the Sheriff's Office.
- 2) Throughout the state, their underlying bond can be revoked, nearly always meaning that they will be held in jail until their case ends, which often means months or years in custody.
- 3) They can face a new criminal charge, Violation of Bail Bond (a felony or Class A misdemeanor), for any violation, no matter how long they were allegedly in violation.
- 4) They can face a charge of felony escape if they were in violation for more than 48 hours.