

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS & COMMUNITY SUPERVISION**



Research In Brief
Televideo Deportation
Hearings



CALENDAR YEAR 2012

**A FEDERAL AND STATE PARTNERSHIP THAT
INCREASED ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY AND REDUCED
PROGRAM COSTS**

The Institutional Hearing Program (IHP) is a Federal and State initiative designed to begin deportation proceedings against criminal aliens under the Department's custody and complete those hearings before the criminal alien is released from the Department's custody. The IHP has been operating in varying forms at selected Department facilities since 1986.

In the late 1990's the Department began to engage in discussions with the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) (also known as the Immigration Court) about the possibility of using video teleconferencing technology for deportation hearings. The motivation for using video teleconferencing was to reduce the cost of transporting inmates to in-person hearings at the Immigration Courts located in three of the Department's reception centers. The Court in turn expressed an interest in using the technology for initial hearings involving administrative issues such as explaining the charges being lodged against the inmate, the acquisition of legal counsel, assessing the need for a translator, and so on.

As a result of these discussions, the Department and EOIR agreed to begin a pilot program whereby a few select general confinement facilities would use video teleconferencing equipment to connect to the Immigration Court in the Department's medium security reception center. The pilot program proved to be very successful and applying what was learned during the implementation and operational stages of the pilot program, the televideo deportation hearing program was formally adopted and methodically rolled out to the remaining under custody facilities. As it turned out, the application of televideo technology not only saved the Department transportation costs, it increased the efficiency of the deportation hearing process itself.

For example, the estimated transportation, staff, and housing costs associated with an average round trip of 500 miles is \$197 per inmate, while the average televideo deportation hearing lasts approximately fifteen (15) minutes and costs approximately \$3 per hearing. **Therefore, the total estimated cost savings attributable to the televideo deportation hearing program between 1999 and 2012 is \$5,154,968** (\$5,234,684 transportation, staff, and housing costs minus \$79,716 televideo connection costs) (see Tables 1 & 2 on the following page).

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Research In Brief—Televideo Deportation Hearings

TABLE 1
TOTAL NUMBER OF TELEVIDEO
DEPORTATION HEARINGS
BY MONTH AND CALENDAR YEAR

| MONTH | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | GRAND TOTAL |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| JANUARY | 38 | 220 | 213 | 123 | 144 | 174 | 303 | 176 | 147 | 177 | 149 | 156 | 159 | 140 | 2,319 |
| FEBRUARY | 41 | 197 | 212 | 72 | 108 | 167 | 235 | 185 | 148 | 145 | 158 | 121 | 135 | 116 | 2,040 |
| MARCH | 82 | 292 | 250 | 124 | 112 | 118 | 280 | 234 | 144 | 112 | 121 | 127 | 176 | 165 | 2,337 |
| APRIL | 127 | 213 | 168 | 152 | 103 | 144 | 195 | 169 | 161 | 139 | 143 | 143 | 135 | 163 | 2,155 |
| MAY | 128 | 264 | 243 | 124 | 102 | 120 | 271 | 208 | 213 | 156 | 125 | 103 | 179 | 154 | 2,390 |
| JUNE | 149 | 209 | 173 | 177 | 119 | 35 | 402 | 190 | 189 | 155 | 156 | 145 | 135 | 149 | 2,383 |
| JULY | 197 | 188 | 185 | 194 | 125 | 141 | 299 | 140 | 143 | 122 | 85 | 42 | 127 | 102 | 2,090 |
| AUGUST | 115 | 200 | 207 | 152 | 77 | 168 | 255 | 123 | 98 | 120 | 110 | 141 | 127 | 100 | 1,993 |
| SEPTEMBER | 253 | 183 | 239 | 164 | 173 | 113 | 235 | 140 | 166 | 172 | 169 | 135 | 171 | 143 | 2,456 |
| OCTOBER | 232 | 152 | 209 | 197 | 140 | 167 | 249 | 116 | 149 | 138 | 150 | 112 | 137 | 126 | 2,274 |
| NOVEMBER | 212 | 160 | 158 | 136 | 116 | 230 | 192 | 228 | 194 | 119 | 134 | 119 | 171 | 141 | 2,310 |
| DECEMBER | 156 | 114 | 121 | 120 | 117 | 192 | 145 | 137 | 82 | 147 | 173 | 113 | 125 | 83 | 1,825 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1,730 | 2,392 | 2,378 | 1,735 | 1,436 | 1,769 | 3,061 | 2,046 | 1,834 | 1,702 | 1,673 | 1,457 | 1,777 | 1,582 | 26,572 |
| MONTHLY AVERAGE | 144 | 199 | 198 | 145 | 120 | 147 | 255 | 171 | 153 | 142 | 139 | 121 | 148 | 132 | |

TABLE 2.1
ESTIMATED COST SAVINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TELEVIDEO DEPORTATION HEARING PROGRAM

| | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| TOTAL NUMBER OF HEARINGS | 1,730 | 2,392 | 2,378 | 1,735 | 1,436 | 1,769 | 3,061 |
| ESTIMATED GROSS TRANSPORTATION COST (\$197 PER INMATE ROUND TRIP) | \$340,810 | \$471,224 | \$468,466 | \$341,795 | \$282,892 | \$348,493 | \$603,017 |
| VIDEO TELECONFERENCING COST TO THE DEPARTMENT (AVERAGE \$3 PER CONNECTION) | \$5,190 | \$7,176 | \$7,134 | \$5,205 | \$4,308 | \$5,307 | \$9,183 |
| NET TRANSPORTATION COST SAVINGS | \$335,620 | \$464,048 | \$461,332 | \$336,590 | \$278,584 | \$343,186 | \$593,834 |

TABLE 2.2
ESTIMATED COST SAVINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TELEVIDEO DEPORTATION HEARING PROGRAM

| | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | GRAND TOTAL |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| TOTAL NUMBER OF HEARINGS | 2,046 | 1,834 | 1,702 | 1,673 | 1,457 | 1,777 | 1,582 | 26,572 |
| ESTIMATED GROSS TRANSPORTATION COST (\$197 PER INMATE ROUND TRIP) | \$403,062 | \$361,298 | \$335,294 | \$329,581 | \$287,029 | \$350,069 | \$311,654 | \$5,234,684 |
| VIDEO TELECONFERENCING COST TO THE DEPARTMENT (AVERAGE \$3 PER CONNECTION) | \$6,138 | \$5,502 | \$5,106 | \$5,019 | \$4,371 | \$5,331 | \$4,746 | \$79,716 |
| NET TRANSPORTATION COST SAVINGS | \$396,924 | \$355,796 | \$330,188 | \$324,562 | \$282,658 | \$344,738 | \$306,908 | \$5,154,968 |