



SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

SHERIFF'S OFFICE
GARY STEED
Sheriff

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOVEMBER 15, 2005

AGENCY

SEDGWICK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LOCATION:

WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

TELEPHONE:

(316) 383-7264

CONTACT:

SHERIFF GARY E. STEED

SHERIFF GARY E. STEED ANNOUNCES IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFIX-VERIFIER SYSTEM IN THE SEDGWICK COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY. THIS SYSTEM PROVIDES IMPROVED INMATE IDENTIFICATION THROUGH ONE-TO-ONE FINGERPRINT COMPARISON. AS AN INMATE IS INITIALLY BROUGHT INTO THE FACILITY, TWO FINGERPRINTS ARE CAPTURED AND LINKED TO THAT INMATE RECORD. WHEN THE INMATE IS LATER RELEASED FROM CUSTODY, THE RECORDED FINGERPRINTS ARE USED TO VERIFY IDENTITY. THE AFIX-VERIFIER SYSTEM DOES NOT REPLACE THE CURRENT METHODS USED TO ENSURE AN INMATE'S IDENTITY, BUT RATHER TO SUPPLEMENT THE EXISTING PROCEDURES.

M-O-R-E

MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND ARRESTED PERSONS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED THROUGH THE SEDGWICK COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY SINCE 2001. DURING THIS SAME TIME FRAME, TEN INMATES WERE IMPROPERLY RELEASED BECAUSE OF MISIDENTIFICATION. SHERIFF STEED STATES THAT "AS THE DEMANDS ON THE FACILITY INCREASE, THIS TECHNOLOGY SHOULD HELP REDUCE THOSE UNAVOIDABLE HUMAN ERRORS THAT MAY OCCUR WHEN YOU ARE WORKING WITH THE VOLUME OF INMATES EXPERIENCED BY THE DETENTION STAFF."

THE AFIX-VERIFIER SYSTEM WAS PURCHASED FOR THIRTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND TEN DOLLARS (\$13,610.00) UNDER THE STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE.

THE SYSTEM WENT ONLINE ON NOVEMBER 14, 2005. THE AFIX-VERIFIER WAS DEVELOPED AND INSTALLED BY THE PHOENIX GROUP WHICH IS LOCATED IN PITTSBURG, KANSAS. A DEMONSTRATION OF THE UNIT MAY BE ARRANGED UPON REQUEST.

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