



P R E S S R E L E A S E

B O A R D O F C O M M I S S I O N E R S

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, May 30, 2019

Fairfield County to Install Body Scanner at Jail

Commissioners:

Steven A. Davis

Mike Kiger

David L. Levacy

County Administrator

Carri L. Brown

Clerk

Rachel A. Elsea

Lancaster, Ohio – The Fairfield County Commissioners and the Fairfield County Sheriff announced today a correctional grade body scanner will be installed at the Fairfield County Jail located at 345 Lincoln Avenue, Lancaster, Ohio, 43130. The purpose of the body scanner is to detect contraband and provide a safer environment at the jail.

Sheriff Dave Phalen stated, “The body scanner is welcome technology to assist our law enforcement professionals. The device functions like scanners at airports and allows for more efficient and less intrusive searches. Other correctional facilities using body scanner technology have reported increased safety for inmates, visitors, and employees.”

The scanner cost approximately \$144,000, and it was paid for through the jail commissary fund. Commissioner Dave Levacy applauded the Sheriff’s Office for their approach. “The Sheriff has thoughtfully used commissary funds to purchase a body scanner and increase safety. This is an appropriate expenditure of the commissary fund because the technology benefits inmates. It will improve safety and help fight the opioid epidemic,” stated Levacy.

The “TEK 84” body scanner takes a minimal amount of physical floor space and has very low radiation exposure. The scanner will be used at booking for all inmates and will be able to detect drugs, tobacco, weapons, and other forms of contraband. Corrections officers and deputies will obtain training prior to operating the scanner.

For more information, please contact Chief Deputy Sheriff Alex Lape at alex.lape@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

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