Dugard case brings changes to how state monitors sex offenders

By Sam Stanton, Sacramento Bee

California corrections officials have increased scrutiny of paroled sex offenders, a move that follows years of failures in how Phillip Garrido, now accused in the kidnapping of Jaycee Lee Dugard, was monitored.

A policy that took effect Thursday calls for parole agents to check records of GPS tracking for offenders who are on "passive" monitoring.

Those offenders wear GPS monitoring devices. Previously, the records of their whereabouts were checked only if a crime had been committed or questions arose about an offender's movements, said corrections spokesman Oscar Hidalgo.

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