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[Share](#) **Prison cell-stopping tests successful**

By [Mike Ward](#) | Thursday, March 24, 2011, 03:33 PM

Conceptual tests of high-tech gear at a Beaumont prison to check its effectiveness in curbing smuggled cell phones were successful, and officials said today that they expect to move ahead to consider possibly buying the technology.

After a convict used a smuggled phone to orchestrate his escape earlier this month, prison officials had arranged for the demonstration at the Stiles Unit — the first tests conducted in a Texas prison — as a prelude to possibly purchasing phone-detecting gear or managed-access equipment.

Michelle Lyons, spokeswoman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Huntsville, said this afternoon that CellAntenna officials demonstrated equipment that can pinpoint the location of cell phones in prisons.

They also conceptually discussed cell-phone jamming technology and so-called "managed access" equipment that intercepts outgoing calls and rings through only calls from approved numbers.

"Jamming is not an option because it is prohibited by federal law, but there are other options that are legal that could benefit the prison system in eradicating cell phones," she said.

Lyons said officials are still examining the test results, which she said "will certainly assist us in evaluating the next step."

The Stiles Unit remains on lockdown, and officials are continuing a cell-by-cell search for smuggled phones and other contraband. As of Thursday, Lyons said, nine cell phones had been found as a results of the searches in the 2,800-convict lockup just outside Beaumont.

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By James

March 25, 2011 8:13 AM | [Link to this](#)

Oliver Bell and the board are not paid, they are wealth or have good jobs already.

By East Chalmers

March 24, 2011 9:04 PM | [Link to this](#)

If michell lyons and these other big wheels at TDCJ raise the salary above what jack in the box starts with,then they can eliminate the cell phone problem.they wouldnt have to hire 18 year olds or these old fat retirees who are being rehired to sleep on the job.by the way is Oliver Bell still employed,because he does nothing but eat.

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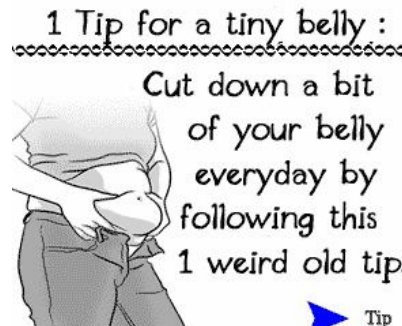
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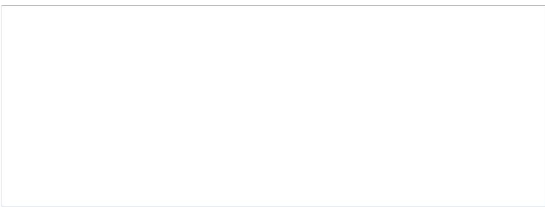
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