



Press Release

## **NEW PROBATION OPTION SAVING MONEY, RESTORING DIGNITY**

UnicusID, an Alabama-based biometrics company, located in the Auburn Research Park on the campus of Auburn University, is proud to be cooperating with probationary services to help solve some of the issues facing post release correctional supervision and release during court supervised diversion programs. Using their patented UnicusID “Shepherd” app, state and local agencies involving probation, pardons, parole, juveniles, pretrial, and diversion, can monitor, map and track the location of offenders under supervision without the need for bulky, expensive, and often unreliable ankle monitors. Brian Thomas of UnicusID says *“It just makes everything so dignified and user-friendly and simple for the offenders and case managers. Now each Case Manager, Judge, Parole Office, or central office personnel can more effectively monitor compliance with hundreds of offenders with less resources, allowing them to focus their time and energy on the cases and offenders that need it most.”*

Shepherd is a smartphone app-based software that uses biometric authentication to tie the identity of the offender to the phone, thus requiring them to keep the phone with them at all times and check in whenever prompted to do so through the app or their case manager, but still allowing them the freedom to work, be with family, attend church and other normal daily activities. *“It’s as easy as taking a selfie so anyone can do it. And this allows check-ins to be done anywhere, whether on the job or sitting in the bleachers watching their child’s basketball game.”* stated Patrick Taylor, president and founder of UnicusID. *“Best of all, the check-ins are silent and discreet so the offender gets to retain their dignity, which is where traditional ankle monitors have failed.”*

UnicusID has recently crossed state lines into Georgia where they are pleased to announce they have signed an agreement to work alongside Professional Probation Services (PPS) where they just began enrolling in Georgia. Costing less than half of what an ankle monitor requires, less financial strain is placed on government agencies and offenders alike. *“With Shepherd, the potential is there to release thousands of low-risk offenders and save the government millions in incarceration costs, while also reuniting families, returning offenders to the workforce and injecting local economies with their tax revenue”* offered Brian Thomas. *“Are we excited about the financial solutions Shepherd offers? Yes, of course, but ultimately it’s about reduced recidivism. It’s about second chances.”*