

SPARTANBURG COUNTY DETENTION FACILITY



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The Spartanburg County Sheriff's Department and other law enforcement agencies located throughout Spartanburg County are benefiting from being linked to the "*Secure Communities*" program which was developed and implemented by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as a strategy to identify and remove illegal aliens from the United States. Under this program, all persons arrested and admitted to the Spartanburg County Detention Facility are fingerprinted and then their fingerprints are biometrically compared to the database of fingerprints maintained by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agency. Once a "hit or match" is identified, ICE Agents notify the jail staff that a "hit" was made and then "a hold" is placed against the individual preventing his/her release until the local criminal charges have been cleared. Once all local criminal charges have been resolved, jail officers then notify the ICE Agents that all criminal charges have been cleared, and that the individual is ready to be picked-up. ICE Agents then have 48 hours excluding weekends and holidays to pick the individual up and transfer him/her to the custody of Immigration authorities pending a hearing to determine his/her immigration status.

Spartanburg County as of February 15, 2011, became the 19th county to be linked to the *Secure Communities* Program within South Carolina. As of October 2010, *Secure Communities* was available in over 686 jurisdictions in 33 states with a stated goal of being implemented in each of 3,100 state and local jails across the country by 2013. This cumulates 4 years of efforts by Sheriff Chuck Wright and Jail Director Larry Powers to implement a program in partnership with ICE and Immigration authorities. To learn more about ICE and the *Secure Communities* program, go to the following link: http://www.ice.gov/secure_communities

