



OFFICE OF  
Steve Boyer

# KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF

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For immediate release:  
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Friday, June 29, 2007

## Community Notification: Level III Sex Offender

**Port Orchard, Wash.** – The Kitsap County Sheriff's Office is releasing the following information pursuant to RCW 4.24.550, and a Washington State Supreme Court decision in *State vs. Ward*, regarding public notification of the anticipated residency of convicted sexual offenders.

The person who is named in this advisory has been convicted of criminal offenses that require registration with the Sheriff's Office in the county of residence. Further, his previous criminal history places him in a classification level that reflects the *potential* to re-offend.

**Name:** Edward Ray Chapman, white male, age 43.

**Residence location:** Chapman will be residing in Kitsap County as a transient with no fixed address, following his release from prison on July 5, 2007. As a transient, Chapman is required to check-in with the Sheriff's Office once per week. Upon release from prison Chapman will be supervised by the state department of corrections.

**Description:** 5' 9" ht., 215 lbs. wt., brown-colored hair and blue-colored eyes.

**Criminal history:** According to court documents, Chapman was convicted in 2001 of two counts of 1<sup>st</sup> degree child molestation.

In 2000, while Chapman was on active duty in the U. S. Navy, he was convicted of possession of child pornography and indecent acts with another. The Navy's investigation revealed that Chapman had sexual contact with children in the past and that he was seeking to have sexual contact with children at the time of his arrest.

Chapman has admitted to additional victims from the time he was a juvenile into adulthood. He has been evaluated as a high risk to re-offend.



**Edward Ray Chapman**

This notification is not intended to increase fear; rather, an informed public is a safer public.

The Sheriff's Office has no legal authority to direct where a registered sex offender may or may not reside. Unless court-ordered restrictions exist, registered offenders are constitutionally free to live wherever they choose.

Sexual offenders have always lived within our communities. It wasn't until passage of legislation entitled the "Community Protection Act of 1990," which mandates sex offender registration, that civil authorities even knew where they were living.

Abuse of information provided through the sex offender notification process, in order to intimidate, harass or threaten registered offenders, will result in an investigation and the filing of criminal charges against the perpetrators. Such abuse could potentially end law enforcement's ability to conduct community notifications. The only person who 'wins,' if community notification is halted, is the registered sex offender, as sexual offenders derive their power through secrecy.

As of this date, there are 19,858 sex offenders who have registered as required and are living in the State of Washington. Of this number, 500 are living in locations within the unincorporated areas of Kitsap County, while 221 offenders are living within the limits of incorporated municipalities in the county:

Bainbridge Island: 8

Bremerton: 175

Port Orchard: 31

Poulsbo: 7

The Sheriff's Community Resource Officer, Deputy Pete Ball, is available to assist communities in establishing block or neighborhood watch programs and to provide the public with information on personal safety. He may be contacted at (360) 337-7074.

For further information on registered sex offenders in Kitsap County, please contact Detective Doug Dillard at (360) 337-5617 or Detective Steve Duckworth at (360) 337-5669.

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