



KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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For immediate release:
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Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009

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," said Sheriff Steve Boyer. "Further, his previous criminal history places him in a classification level that reflects the *potential* to re-offend."

Name: Christopher Sollie Smith, white male, age 29.

Residence location: Smith has registered with the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office as a transient, with no fixed address. As a transient he is required to check-in with the sheriff's office once per week.

Description: 5' 06" ht., 140 lbs. wt., hair: brown, eyes: hazel.

Criminal history: According to court documents Smith was convicted of child molestation, 3rd degree, in 1998 after sexually assaulting a young girl known to him.

In 2004 he was convicted of attempted rape of a child, 3rd degree, after having sexual contact with a teenage girl known to him.

Smith has a previous conviction for burglary and three convictions for failure to register as a sex offender.

While incarcerated with the Washington State Department of Corrections he had major infractions for fighting. In 2006 Smith was found non-amenable to participate in sex offender treatment.

Community meeting: Since Smith is a transient, no community meeting is scheduled.



Christopher Sollie Smith

Date of photograph: 10/08/2009

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 Oct. 12, 2009 there are 20,297 sex offenders who have registered as required and are living in the State of Washington. Of this number, 527 are living in locations within the unincorporated areas of Kitsap County, while 253 offenders are living within the limits of incorporated municipalities in the county; 89 are incarcerated in jail or with the state department of corrections and 17 are transient.

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.

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