



# KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Sheriff  
Gary Simpson  
**News**

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## Community Notification: Level III Sex Offenders

**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 two persons named in this advisory have been convicted of criminal offenses that require registration with the sheriff's office in the county of residence," said Sheriff Gary Simpson. "Further, their previous criminal histories place them in a classification level that reflects the *potential* to re-offend."

**Name:** Joshua Bret Garner, white male, age 38.

**Residence location:** Garner has re-registered with the sheriff's office as now residing in the 2500 block of Brookside Court SE in South Kitsap.

**Description:** Height: 6' 00", Weight: 235 lbs., Hair: brown, Eyes: hazel



**Joshua Bret Garner**

**Date of photograph:** 06/17/2020

**Criminal history:** According to court documents Garner was convicted of child molestation, 1<sup>st</sup> degree in 2006, involving an underage female whom he was babysitting. In 2010 he was convicted of child molestation, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, and assault, 4<sup>th</sup> degree (with sexual motivation) after assaulting two teen females known to him. Garner has additional convictions of making a false statement, no contact order violations, telephone harassment, drug possession and failure to register as a sex offender.

**Name:** Brian James Horton, white male, age 55.

**Residence location:** Horton has re-registered with the sheriff's office as now residing in the 17000 block of Viking Way NW in North Kitsap. This is a less restrictive alternative community placement residence for certain high risk sexual offenders. This program is administered by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services.

**Description:** Height: 5' 09", Weight: 150 lbs., Hair: brown, Eyes: hazel



**Brian James Horton**

**Date of photograph:** 06/17/2020

**Criminal history:** According to court documents, Horton was convicted of indecent liberties in 1987 after approaching an adult female, unknown to him, grabbed her and tried to drag her into bushes. He had exposed himself to this victim's children prior to attacking her. In 1994 Horton was convicted of assault, 4<sup>th</sup> degree, after contacting a female unknown to him and placing his arm around her without permission.

When she attempted to flee, he blocked her escape and threatened that he was watching her and was going to 'get her.' Horton was convicted in 1987 of child molestation, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree, after sexually abusing a boy and girl he was babysitting. Horton also has been convicted of obstruction of a public servant.

**Community meetings:** due to COVID-19 restrictions ***community notification meetings will not be held*** concerning Joshua Bret Garner or Brian James Horton and their residency locations.

**Additional information:** As of June 23, there are 22,090 sex offenders who have registered as required and are living in Washington State. Of this number, 804 are registered with the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office and live at addresses within the unincorporated areas of the county.

The sex offenders listed above have served the sentences imposed on them by the courts. They have advised the sheriff's office that they will be living within Kitsap County. These persons are not wanted by law enforcement at this time. 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, these 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 law enforcement 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.

**Neighborhood Watch:** The sheriff's community resource officer, Deputy Schon Montague, 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 via e-mail at: [smontagu@co.kitsap.wa.us](mailto:smontagu@co.kitsap.wa.us)

For further information on registered sex offenders within Kitsap County, contact Detective Eric Adams at (360) 337-4998.

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