



October 24, 2012

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Media Advisory

Parole and Probation Officers in Las Vegas Conducts Eighth Annual Halloween Operation Scarecrow

LAS VEGAS NV: Officers from the Nevada Department of Public Safety – Division of Parole and Probation (NDPS/DPP), in an effort to provide enhanced safety for children who may be targeted by sexual predators during the holiday, will conduct the eighth annual Halloween Operation: Scarecrow.

The purpose of this operation is to eliminate contact between supervised sex offenders and children by meeting with and providing specific direction to these high risk and high profile offenders. These offenders have been directed to avoid coming into contact with children in any way and to remove items such as candy and decorations, which could lure children to or near their residences. Additional surveillance and home contacts will be conducted to ensure offender compliance.

The Division of Parole and Probation will be working in teams consisting of officers and Sergeants assigned to the Sex Offender Unit. The objective of the teams is to target the most serious sex offenders under the Division's supervision.

Beginning October 1, 2012, and throughout the month until October 30th, officers within the Sex Offender Unit began providing their offenders with the "Offender Halloween Restrictions" and were instructed to avoid contact with children during the Halloween holiday, and to avoid participation in any Halloween-related festivities involving or potentially involving children.

Home contacts and surveillances will be conducted at offender residences to spot potential violations of the "Offender Halloween Restrictions" literature provided to the offenders during the month of October 2012. Officers will attempt to make as many contacts as possible during the operation. Observed violations will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

The focus of the operation is to ensure that the offenders who meet the following criteria have no contact with children:

- Tier 2 and Tier 3 offenders, whose offense involved a child victim; or
- Tier 2 and Tier 3 offenders with a “no contact with children” clause as part of their Probation, Parole or Lifetime Supervision conditions.

NOTE: The media will be permitted to ride along with one of our two-officer field teams on October 31, 2012 from 1445 hrs through 2045 hrs. To schedule a ride along, please contact the DPP Public Information Officer, Captain Douglas Maul at (702) 486-3121. The Sergeants in the Sex Offender Unit will assign each media crew to a specific officer team. All media teams will be briefed concerning safety and conduct during this operation.

WHAT: Operation: Scarecrow 8

WHERE: Las Vegas community at large

WHEN: Beginning 1445 hrs on Wednesday October 31, 2012

CONTACT: Lieutenant Colin Webb, Sex Offender Unit NDPS/DPP at (702) 486-3049

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