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## **Nevada Division of Parole and Probation**

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October 27, 2014

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## **Media Release**

## Nevada Department of Public Safety-Division of Parole and Probation Conducts Annual Halloween Operation Scarecrow in conjunction with United States Marshals Service Operation Trick Or Treat

**RENO, SPARKS, AND WASHOE COUNTY:** In an effort to provide enhanced safety for children who may be targeted by sexual predators during the Halloween holiday, and to verify compliance with registration requirements of local area sex offenders, officers from the Nevada Department of Public Safety-Division of Parole and Probation, the US Marshals Service's Fugitive Task Force, and the Regional Sex Offender Notification Unit will simultaneously conduct Operations Scarecrow and Trick Or Treat during the week of October 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

The purpose of these operations is to ensure there is no contact between Division-supervised sex offenders and children on Halloween by giving specific direction in advance to supervised sex offenders and providing enhanced community supervision to high risk sex offenders. Supervised sex offenders will not be permitted to participate in any activity which could potentially lure children to or near their residences to include a restriction that they cannot have home parties or distribute candy to children on Halloween. Additionally, throughout the week preceding Halloween, officers will be contacting both Division-supervised and unsupervised sex offenders to verify their compliance with state law registration requirements.

The focuses of these operations are to ensure that offenders whose crimes involved a child victim or offenders who have a "no contact with children" condition have no contact whatsoever with children on Halloween; and to ensure sex offenders residing within Washoe County are residing at their address of record and are in compliance with their terms and conditions of supervision, if applicable.

Throughout the month of October, Division officers have provided supervised sex offenders with written "Offender Halloween Restrictions." These offenders were instructed to avoid any contact with children during the Halloween holiday and to avoid participation in any Halloween-related festivities involving or potentially involving children.

Officers will be conducting home visitations and surveillances to determine offender compliance and to detect any potential violations of the "Offender Halloween Restrictions" provided to the offenders. Officers will make as many contacts as possible over the five day operation. Enforcement action regarding violations will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

**WHAT:** Operation Scarecrow and Operation Trick or Treat

WHERE: Reno, Sparks, and Washoe CountyWHEN: October 27 through October 31, 2014

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