



Nevada Division of Parole and Probation

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Media Release

Nevada Department of Public Safety – Division of Parole and Probation Partners with Local Law Enforcement in Conducting Tenth Annual Halloween Operation Scarecrow in conjunction with U.S. Marshals Service’s Eighth Annual 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, Officers from the Nevada Department of Public Safety – Division of Parole and Probation conducted the 10th annual Halloween Operation, Scarecrow on October 31st. Operation Scarecrow was preceded throughout the week of Halloween by the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Taskforce’s Operation Trick or Treat. Operation Trick or Treat was a joint partnership amongst the U.S. Marshals, Division of Parole and Probation, and the Regional Sex Offender Notification Unit.

The goal of Operation Scarecrow was to ensure no contact between Division-supervised sex offenders and children on Halloween. Operation Scarecrow provides enhanced community supervision giving specific direction to high risk sex offenders whose criminal histories include sexual convictions against minors, and those having special conditions prohibiting contact with children during their terms of supervision. Offenders were restricted from participating in any activity which could potentially lure children to or near their residences, including restrictions to stay at home, turn off their porch lights, to not have home parties and to not distribute Halloween candy. Officers conducted surveillances and residential and employment contacts to monitor and ensure offender compliance, and to detect and enforce any violations of their Halloween restrictions. Operation Scarecrow resulted in a total of 37 home contacts and 12 surveillances of supervised sex offenders. Enforcement action for violations was determined on a case-by-case basis.

Operation Trick or Treat was conducted throughout the week preceding Halloween wherein more than 20 officers from 5 law enforcement agencies contacted both Division-supervised and unsupervised local area sex offenders to verify their compliance with state law registration requirements. The joint efforts of these two combined operations resulted in more than 500 contacts with registered sex offenders and 5 felony arrests for the crimes of Violation of Lifetime Supervision, Sex Offender Failure to Register, Possession of a Controlled Substance, and two outstanding Felony warrant arrests.

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