

Multi-Housing Crime Reduction Newsletter

for Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater and Thurston County

July 2008

Sex Offender Registration Questions Answered

Detective Leischner from the Thurston County Sheriff's Office explained the sex offender registration process at the June meeting. In our state, the county Sheriff's Office has the ultimate responsibility of registering and monitoring sex offenders in their jurisdiction. They are also responsible for notifying the public of offenders' location with assistance from the local police departments.

Sex offenders are categorized into three different levels dependant upon criteria determined by the local Sheriff. Those criteria may include severity of the crime and the person's criminal history.

Level one are the least likely to re-offend and the public does not receive notification. They are required to verify their residence once a year by mail.

The public is given notification for level two and three offenders. Additionally, their information is on state and national databases. Level two and three must verify their residence in by appearing in person every 90 days. Those who register as transient must appear at the Sheriff's Office every Monday with a log of their locations for the past week. Det. Leischner is hoping to add annual home visits to the verification process.

Failing to register now has increased penalties due to legislative changes. This includes failing to verify residence in the required time. There are 685 registered sex offenders in Thurston County. Of those, 312 are level two or three. During the last verification, 13 people did not comply and Det. Leischner will be investigating those cases for referral to the prosecutor's office.

Depending on the offense, the requirement to register may expire. Generally, those under 15 must register for two years, participate in treatment and not commit any additional sex crimes.

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Adults must register for at least 10 years with no criminal activity. They can then petition the court to remove the registration requirement.

To make sure all household member meet your screening criteria for sex offenses, Det. Leischner recommends screening juveniles by at least searching the state and national websites. You can also ask on rental applications if the applicant or anyone in their household is required to register as a sex offender.

On the other hand, sex offenders are much more likely to do well in society if they establish a residence and employment. If you are considering renting to sex offenders, Det. Leischner is a resource for information.

For more information:
Det. Leischner—786-5527
www.thurstonsheriff.org

State database:
<http://ml.waspc.org/>

National database:
<http://www.nsopr.gov/>

Upcoming Events



IMPORTANT— MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

Thursday, July 17th 12:30-1:30 PM

Regular monthly CRMH meeting

*****LOCATION CHANGE*****

Prime Locations Office 4160 6th Ave. SE Suite #200, Lacey

Please park in the Office Depot/Goodwill lot across the street.

