



David A. Clarke Jr.
Sheriff

Milwaukee County Office of the Sheriff

Fran McLaughlin
Public Information Officer
Cell: 414-254-9488
Phone: 414-278-5226
fran.mclaughlin@milwcnty.com

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Sheriff's Office Monitors Sex Offenders During Halloween Trick or Treat Hours

Milwaukee, WI - The Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation Division and Apprehension Unit, Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) Probation and Parole, and the police departments in Milwaukee, West Allis, and West Milwaukee have partnered to ensure the safety of children as they go door to door through neighborhoods in Milwaukee County collecting Halloween treats.

On Sunday, October 28, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., combined law enforcement teams will conduct "Knock and Talks" at residences of known high risk sex offenders, and serve warrants on sex offenders who have not registered with the Wisconsin Sex Offender Registry.

During the "Knock and Talks," officers will enforce and confirm that sexual predators are in compliance with the Halloween guidelines set forth by the DOC. The Halloween rules for sex offenders are as follows:

- During any trick-or-treating in their neighborhood, the sex offender will remain in their residence one hour prior to and one hour following Halloween activities.
- The home/apartment may not be decorated for Halloween – this includes both the inside and outside of the residence.
- The home/apartment must not have a lighted porch (or any indication that the residence is participating in Halloween activities.)
- No distribution of candy at place of residence.
- No possession of any costume or pieces of costume used for Halloween.
- No participation in any activity related to Halloween and/or trick or treat activities; this includes visiting haunted house sites.

Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) units will be used to conduct on-scene tests for alcohol use due to the absolute sobriety requirement required of sexual offenders on probation or parole.

Last year, deputies knocked on 221 doors of registered sex offenders. Sixteen sex offenders were arrested for violation of their probation and parole conditions. In addition, one arrest warrant was issued for probation and parole non-compliance for an offender who was not home.

Milwaukee County Sheriff's detectives have already begun to locate and arrest sex offenders with arrest warrants and for failure to register with the Wisconsin Sex Offender Registry.

Media ride-alongs are available on Sunday, October 28, during the "Trick-or-Treat" operation. Contact Fran McLaughlin at 254-9488 by Friday, October 26 to schedule a ride-along.