

## SCRANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY

*Effective Date:*

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**16-027**

*Policy Subject:*

**Sexual Offenders and Sexually Violent Predator Notification**

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### **I. PURPOSE**

Pennsylvania joined many other states in passing laws where persons who have been convicted of sexual crimes must register with the PA State Police. Persons who are required to register are classified as a Sexual Offender, Sexually Violent Predator, or Sexually Violent Delinquent Child dependent on the crimes committed. Commonly referred to as Megan's Law, the laws requires certain persons and areas to be notified if a sexually violent predator moves into the jurisdiction. This policy addresses the procedures to be followed if notification is received by the agency of a sexual offender, sexually violent predator, or sexually violent delinquent child.

### **II. POLICY**

#### **A. Sexual Offender Notifications**

The PA State Police shall make notification to the Scranton Police Department of registered sexual offenders who reside or work in the City of Scranton.

#### **B. Sexually Violent Predator Residency Notifications**

1. The Chief of Police, upon notification by the Pennsylvania State Police that a person designated by court order as a "Sexually Violent Predator" or "Sexually Violent Delinquent Child" is residing in the City, shall be responsible for providing written notice to persons as required by PA Title 42, Section 9798. The Chief may delegate the notification requirement, but holds no responsibility to ensure that notification is completed.

2. The written notice shall contain:
  - a. The name of the convicted sexually violent predator or sexually violent delinquent child.
  - b. The address or addresses at which he or she has a residence, or if transient, the transient's temporary place of abode or dwelling to include but not limited to: homeless shelter, park, and where the person eats, frequents and engages in leisure activities.
  - c. The offense(s) for which he or she is convicted.
  - d. A statement that the sexually violent offender has been determined to be a sexually violent predator or sexually violent delinquent child, which determination has or has not been terminated as of a date certain.
  - e. A photograph of the person so designated.
3. The notice shall not contain any information that may reveal the victim's name, identity, and residence.
4. Materials and notification instructions will be provided by the PA State Police.
5. Written notice shall be provided to the following in the stated time frames:
  - a. Victim(s) of the sexually violent predator or sexually violent delinquent child. Notification shall occur within 72 hours after the sexually violent release date and their address has been received by the Chief of Police.
  - b. Neighbors (as defined by title 42, Section 9798) of the sexually violent predator. Notification shall be notified in writing within five (5) days of the packet from the PA State Police.
    - a. Verbal notification may precede written notification if written notification would delay meeting the time frame.
    - c. The Director of the County Children and Youth Service agency of the County. Notification shall occur within seven (7) days of the receipt of the packet.
    - d. The Superintendent of the School District and the equivalent official for any private or parochial schools enrolling students through grade twelve (12) in the City or within one (1) mile of where the sexually violent predator resides. Notification shall occur within seven (7) days of the receipt of the packet from the PA State Police.
      - 1) If the one (1) mile radius should extend outside the City, the school shall be notified by the Scranton Police Department.
      - 2) The police agency providing police services to a school outside of the City shall also be notified.

- e. The director of each licensed day care center and licensed preschool program in the City. Notification shall occur within seven (7) days of the receipt of the packet from the PA State Police.
  - f. The President of any college, university, or community college located within 1,000 feet of a sexually violent predator's residence. Notification shall occur within seven (7) days of the receipt of the packet from the PA State Police.
6. Notification requiring return to the PA State Police shall be returned to them.
7. Public Notice

All information provided within accordance of this sub-section shall be available, upon request, to the public, and may be provided by electronic means. The information may also be found on the internet at the PA Megan's Law Website.

8. Applicability to Interstate Parolees

The notifications enumerated in this section shall also apply to individuals who are paroled to the Commonwealth pursuant to Section 33 of the Act of August 6, 1941 referred to as the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole.

9. Sexually Violent Predators Working in the City Notifications

PA Sate Police shall make notification to the Scranton Police Department of Sexually Violent Predators who work in the City of Scranton.

By Order Of:

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Chief Carl R. Graziano  
Superintendent of Police  
Scranton Police Department