

**Public Notification Working Group**  
**First Meeting Notes**  
**10-31-05**

**In Attendance:**

Sgt Ron Helder (SJPD/Megan's Law Unit)  
Det David Woolsey (SJPD/Megan's Law Unit)  
Det Mark Pineda (SJPD/Megan's Law Unit)  
Diane Gonzalez (District 3)  
Gary Chronert (District 9)  
Robert Varich, SJ Unified

**Topics Addressed:**

- Brief history of the statutes governing public notifications of sex registrants
  - Went over old "High Risk" system and criteria for notification
  - Compared to new "Full Address" system and criteria for notification
- Discussed how the law change puts the burden of assessment on law enforcement, but allows law enforcement to conduct a public notification, when deemed appropriate, on any offender
- Went over current notification procedures
- Solicited input on how notification procedures can be improved

**Suggestions received:**

- 1) Come up with a common database for entry of vital information to decrease lag time and increase communication amongst agencies with an interest in the registrant.
- 2) Don't notify only the residents - know what preschools & businesses with children or persons at risk to the offender are within the notification area, and include them in the notification.
- 3) Identify which neighborhood association(s) are within the notification area, and notify a representative of the association. This would allow for the representative to pass information along to persons not reached during the notification.
- 4) Identify which schools & school districts are within the notification area. Make personal contact (other than e-mail) with the principal and advise them of the notification.
- 5) Identify a zone just outside of the notification area, and notify school principals and neighborhood association representatives in this area, though not necessarily the residents themselves. This would allow for the representative / principal to pass information along to persons not reached during the notification.

- 6) Contact the School Superintendent to determine exactly which schools/districts are affected by the notification area (this is because the districts are aligned in various shapes and sizes within the city)
- 7) Provide a system of email notification to members of the public who wished to be notified of any sex offender movement in their neighborhood, regardless of whether or not the police department conducts a public notification.

**Progress Made:**

- Item #1 – The increase in communication should be addressed by the Internal Communication group.
- Item #7 – A service already exists for the email notification of sex offender movement in a registered user's zip code. Prior to this discussion, a memo was submitted to endorse and/or place a link to that service on the department's website.