

Press Release

Cheektowaga Police Recognized for Sex Offender Management Keeping Communities Safe Using Best Practices

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK – DECEMBER 09, 2010 The Cheektowaga Police Department has been certified by the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police (Association) in a new sex offender management program. The certification recognizes that Cheektowaga Police are employing proactive and sound practices in managing sex offenders in their community. The “Certified Best Practices” program was launched about two years ago to recognize police agencies that use proven strategies to monitor sex offenders, provide community notification and conduct enforcement. Association Executive Director John P. Grebert said, “For several years, managing sex offenders has become an important function of law enforcement. Police are on the front lines in ensuring that offenders comply with the law and that citizens are informed about certain offenders living in their communities.”



Association President Margaret E. Ryan (Dryden PD) said, “We are all grateful to the members of the Cheektowaga Police Department for the excellent work they do in managing sex offenders in their community.”

The policies and operations of the Cheektowaga Police Department were assessed and found to be in compliance with the elements of the Best Practices program. In addition to having a written policy pertaining to sex offender management, they were also required to provide proof of monitoring of offenders, community notification, cooperation with other agencies, and enforcement.

Police Chief Christine Ziemba said, “We recognize the importance of being aware of the sex offenders residing in our community and making that information available to our citizens, where appropriate. We are very pleased that our process of monitoring them, our partnership with our area school districts in making notifications, along with our other procedures, meet the standards of the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police and to be certified in the Sex Offender Management Program. This is one more tool that we are able to use to keep our community safe.”

The Association’s director of research, development and training, Mark Spawn noted that the Best Practices program takes several

factors into consideration.

“This program identifies important aspects of sex offender registration and gives agencies the ability to have an external validation of their processes.” Spawn extended special thanks to Lt. Michael Isbrandt who provided information to the Association during the application and review process. “I was particularly impressed with Cheektowaga PD’s program”, Spawn added. “It is comprehensive and informative.”

The Association’s program was presented at a National Symposium on Sex Offender Management in Houston in April 2009. Spawn added that for agencies that do not yet have a policy in place, the Association has resources to assist departments in developing a plan to meet their individual needs.



Cheektowaga Police Lt. Michael Isbrandt (right) receives a certificate attesting to the department’s Best Practices from Mark A. Spawn, Director of Research, Development and Training for the New York State Assn. of Chiefs of Police.