

Press Release

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

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK – MAY 20, 2009 - The Evans Police Department received certification today by the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police in a new sex offender management program. The certification recognizes that Evans Police are employing proactive and sound practices in managing sex offenders in their community. The presentation was made at the 7:00 PM Town Board Meeting in Angola, New York. The Best Practices certification program was launched in January and focuses on certain strategies used by police to: monitor sex offenders, provide community notification, and conduct enforcement. Association Executive Director John P. Grebert said, "For more than a decade, 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."



Evans Police Chief Ernest P. Masullo commented, "We are always looking for ways to improve our law enforcement efforts. I want to thank Mark Spawn for his assistance in this endeavor. We take this additional certification very seriously. The men and women of the Evans Police Department work very hard to project a positive and professional image when enforcing the law."

Association President Robert D'Angelo (North Castle PD) said, "This program provides an independent review of the law enforcement role in sex offender management. I am so pleased

that we are able to provide this service not only to recognize those agencies that are being proactive, but more important, to promote safety in our communities.”

“I speak for all of the residents in the Town of Evans as I congratulate Chief Masullo in pursuing this Certification”, said Deputy Town Supervisor Karen Erickson. She lauded the original efforts in sex offender management undertaken by former Chief Robert Ferguson, adding, “the success of this program continues with the implementation by Chief Masullo, the dedication of the Detective Bureau, and the tenacity of our entire Police Department. Congratulations to the Town of Evans Police Department on a collective effort to make the Town of Evans a safe place to raise a family.”

The policies and operations of the Evans 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 submit proof of monitoring of offenders, community notification, cooperation with other agencies, and enforcement.

Superintendent Jeffrey R. Rabey of the Lake Shore Central School District praised the relationship between the District and Evans Police, saying, “The Lake Shore School Community is privileged to have a strong partnership with the Evans Police Department as it strives to be proactive in warning the public of potential dangers and recommendations for maintaining the safety of the community’s children.”

At Wednesday evening’s presentation, Chief Masullo received the certification from Mark A. Spawn, Director of Research, Development and Training for the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police. Spawn said that the Best Practices program takes several factors into consideration, noting, “This program identifies the most important aspects of sex offender registration and gives agencies the ability to have an external validation of their processes.”

The Best Practices program was recently highlighted the 2009 National Symposium on Sex Offender Management and Accountability in Houston, Texas. Spawn said that for agencies that do not yet have a policy in place, the Association has resources to assist them in developing a plan to meet their needs.