

# Press Release

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

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK – The Utica Police Department has been certified by the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police (Association) in a special sex offender management program. The certification recognizes that Utica Police are employing proactive and sound practices in managing sex offenders in their community. The “Certified Best Practices” program was launched about three years ago to recognize police agencies using 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 commend the members of the Utica Police Department for the excellent work they do in managing sex offenders in their community.”

The policies and operations of the Utica 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.

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.”

Utica Police are among 40 other agencies throughout New York State that have been certified.