

Press Release

Fulton Police Become First Agency Certified Under New Program

Keeping Communities Safe Using Best Practices
in Sex Offender Management

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK – The Fulton Police Department became the first agency to become certified by the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police (Association) in a new sex offender management program. The certification recognizes that Fulton Police are employing recognized practices in managing sex offenders in their community. The presentation was made at an 11:00 AM ceremony on Friday, January 30, at the Municipal Building in Fulton, New York. The “Certified Best Practices” program was launched earlier this month to recognize police agencies that employ certain strategies 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.”



Fulton Police Chief Orlo Green commented, "We are honored by the recognition bestowed upon us by the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police. It is important for law enforcement agencies everywhere to have a comprehensive sex offender management program that works to ensure the safety of its citizens and community".

Last year, the Association participated in a statewide training initiative led by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) in bringing sex offender management

training to police. The Association and DCJS continue to work together in bringing the latest information in sex offender management to law enforcement.

The policies and operations of the Fulton Police Department were assessed and found to be in compliance with the elements of the new 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.

At Friday's presentation, Fulton Police Chief Orlo Green received the certification from the Association's Director of Research, Development and Training, Mark Spawn. Spawn is the former Chief of Police of the Fulton Police Department. "I am especially pleased that Fulton PD is the first agency to be certified under this new program." Spawn also noted that the Best Practices program takes several factors into consideration. "New York State's sex offender laws have changed every year since its inception in 1996. For some departments, it has been difficult to follow and adapt to all of the changes." He added, "This program identifies the most important aspects of sex offender registration and gives agencies the ability to have an external validation of their processes." Spawn also said 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.