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## Sex Offender checks for Halloween

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Sorry NO  
Candy  
@ this house

**Updated: Saturday, November 1 2014, 12:11 AM EDT**

As children hit the streets this Halloween, parole officers were out as well. They spent the evening visiting sex offenders to make sure they were following specific rules, laid out for the holiday.

"Our greatest concern is to keep the community safe," said Schenectady County Parole Officer Heidi Farrell.

CBS6 rode along as Parole Officer Farrell visited some of the sex offenders assigned to her.

On Halloween, she said offenders have to be home from two in the afternoon until six the next morning unless they are working.

They are not allowed to have masks, costumes or Halloween candy. Some have signs on their door saying there's no candy there, so children don't stop.

"No candy, no masks, no decorations. Nothing that would make me think they were going to do something to gain access to someone to victimize," said Farrell.

One level three sex offender that Farrell checked on, told CBS6 that he felt the rules were fair.

"I'm fine with that, I think it's the way it should be," he said.

The man said he follows strict rules every day, because doesn't want to get in trouble again.

"I just pray that I can be forgiven for what I've done," he said.

"We just saw that gentleman and we will be back there two, three, four more times tonight," said Farrell.

She said parole officers will make multiple unannounced visits to the same person on Halloween, to make sure the rules continue to be followed.

Even with the work she and others are doing, Officer Farrell said parents should be out with their children and should inform themselves.

"With the internet and social media you are able to research who's in your neighborhood," she said.

She also wants the community to know that parole officers are out enforcing strict rules, every day. For example, she said some sex offenders wear GPS monitoring, keep daily journals of where they go and what they do. They also have to have visitors approved by Parole.

"This is one holiday, but our job is no different today as it is tomorrow. We work weekends, we work holidays, we work nights, mornings," she said.

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