



**For Immediate Release:** Friday, October 30, 2015

**Contact:**

Thomas Mailey | [Thomas.Mailey@dccs.ny.gov](mailto:Thomas.Mailey@dccs.ny.gov)  
DOCCS Press Office | (518) 457-8182

## **Operation Halloween Targets Sex Offenders Under Supervision**

*Restrictions and monitoring protect the public*

ALBANY— For the tenth consecutive year, the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision will impose special conditions and closely monitor supervised sex offenders to ensure the safety of children on Halloween.

“The Department is committed to keeping the streets of each community safe and free of sex offenders so families can enjoy the festive holiday without fear. I am extremely proud of all the hard work that Community Supervision staff display each and everyday they are in the field”, DOCCS Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci said.

Approximately 2,375 sex offenders under supervision will be visited by their Parole Officer on Halloween night. As part of the Operation Halloween, the Department has imposed the following special conditions on sex offenders:

- Beginning in the early afternoon on Halloween, or immediately following the end of their work day or completion of an approved community program, all sex offender parolees are to remain in their residence until 6 a.m. the following morning.
- Parolees cannot open their doors, distribute candy or partake in the act of “trick-or-treating.”
- Parolees cannot wear any costume, mask or other disguises.

In addition, county Probation Departments, which monitor approximately 5,000 sex offenders under probation supervision, also may have programs in place to monitor those offenders on Halloween. Those initiatives can vary from county to county, as Probation Departments are locally administered. For example, in New York City, the city's Probation Department will be conducting Halloween operations in all five boroughs, including home visits and curfew checks on highest risk offenders, and Monroe County Probation has ordered offenders under supervision in that county not to decorate their homes, turn off exterior lights, not answer their doors or give out candy. In addition, the agency will work in partnership with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office to conduct home visits with highest risk offenders.

The Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) maintains the state's Sex Offender Registry and a Registry subdirectory on their agency's website (<http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov>) that by law provides information about Level 2 (medium risk of re-offense) and Level 3 (high risk of re-offense) sex offenders to the public.

By law, the state can only provide information about Level 1 (low risk of re-offense) offenders or those with a pending risk level through a toll-free number (1-800-262-3257); callers must have an

individual's name and at least one other identifier (an exact address, date of birth, driver's license number or Social Security number).

New Yorkers also can register to receive alerts whenever a Level 2 or 3 offender moves into – or from – their neighborhood or another community of interest to them. Sex offender relocation notices are sent via the state's NY-ALERT system; visit [www.nyalert.gov](http://www.nyalert.gov) and click on the "Sign up for NY-Alerts" link in the left menu to learn more and register. ###