Over this summer a California based telemarketing company has been calling western Washington residents warning them that a sex offender has moved into their neighborhood and offering to provide a list of sex offenders for $19 to $20.

The calls have been made to residents in Mason, Thurston, Grays Harbor, Kitsap, Pierce, King, Whatcom, and Lewis counties and to at least one Snohomish County Sheriff’s Office volunteer. The company identified as United States Protection and Care Society refers the resident to their website for more information and instructions on how to sign up. The Washington State Attorney General’s Office is currently investigating this company.

You do not need to pay a private company to be warned about sex offenders moving into your neighborhood. Under Washington State law county sheriffs offices post the general locations of sex offenders on the sheriff’s offices’ web pages.

In Snohomish County, when the Sheriff’s Office is notified that a sex offender is moving into the county, its Registered Sex Offender (RSO) Unit notifies moderate to high risk sex offender’s new neighbors and hosts a community meeting in that neighborhood to explain who the sex offender is, the rights and obligations of the sex offender and citizens, and suggests ways citizens can protect themselves.

The Snohomish County Sheriff’s Office Registered Sex Offender Unit also maintains a web site at www.co.snohomish.wa.us/sheriff/rso

If you do not have access to the internet, you can review a list of sex offenders at your precinct.

For more information on registered sex offenders call or email:
Detective Joe Beard-
(425) 388-3394
joe.beard@co.snohomish.wa.us

Detective Dave Coleman-
(425) 388-3394
david.coleman@co.snohomish.wa.us

Susan York’s anti-meth lab organization, Lead On America has a new phone number:
(425) 299-0334
You can also email Susan at:
susan@leadonamerica.org
For more information on meth, go to:
www.leadonamerica.org

Lead On America works with neighborhoods to educate their homeowners about meth and how they can fight it.
Calling 911—When and How to Call

From time to time you might need to call 911. It may be for a traffic accident, a burglarized home or stolen car or you may have been involved in a robbery, assault, or a medical emergency. You might see suspicious activity, or have a complaint about a neighbor’s dog, a neighbor making loud, disturbing noises, or speeding on your street. All of these situations are worthy of calling 911.

When you call 911 in Snohomish County, you might connect with SNOPAC, SNOCOM, the Marysville Police Department or the State Patrol. SNOPAC, which services the Sheriff’s Office as well as several other police departments and fire districts in the county, handled 562,667 calls in 2003. Of those, it handled 225,815 calls for the Sheriff’s Office.

As a rule, the call taker that answers your call will ask what you are reporting and where you are located. They will want to confirm your address and phone number even though most land line phones show the address and phone number on their screen. Cell phone calls do not give this information.

Tom Howell, Executive Director of SNOPAC, points out that for most people, calling 911 is a stressful experience. He urges everyone to try to remain calm, so that you can give accurate information clearly to the call taker.

He also urges that you let the call taker pull information from you. As soon as the call taker has certain minimal information he or she forwards the information to the appropriate agency for action. Often the call taker will ask for more information from you. Some people think that this slows down the response, it does not. Depending on the situation, the call takers can forward additional helpful information for responding fire or police units.

If the call taker asks you to stay on the line, please do so. Until fire or police units arrive on the scene you are the only eyes available for emergency responders to know what is going on or the only person to help out in the situation. This can be very important to you, the people around you, and the responding fire and police especially in a life and death situation.

Level 2

You may call concerning suspicious activity, a property crime, or a neighborhood nuisance and the call taker will advise you that the Sheriff’s Office is at Level 2 and is not taking lower priority calls. This means that all deputies on duty in the precinct are on higher priority life or death calls and that no deputies are available to handle lower priority property crime or suspicious activity calls.
Sexual Assault Summit – **Learning Prevention**

On October 1, at 8:00am to 5:00pm the Snohomish County Center for Battered Women and the Providence Everett Sexual Assault Center are jointly hosting a Sexual Assault Summit at the Everett Events Center.

Topics to be covered at the summit include:

- Keynote speaker Mr. Jackson Katz on “Tough Guise”
- Victim/Survivor Panel
- Dating Violence
- Elder Abuse
- Sexual Assault/Homicide Prevention
- Snohomish County Domestic Violence Coalition Presentation

Admission is $30 per person (including lunch).

All are invited. To assure an invitation please call Snohomish County Center for Battered Women at (425) 259-2827 extension 12 or email kae-fries@snocobw.org.

The Center for Battered Women provides confidential, free, 24 hour, 7 day a week support for women and their children who have been or are being physically or emotionally abused. Support includes counseling, support groups, emergency sheltering, and legal advocacy.

For emergency help call their 24-hour hotline at:

- (425) 25-ABUSE
- (425) 252-2873
(Collect calls are accepted)

For more information on domestic violence:

Write: PO Box 7, Everett, WA 98206
Call: (425) 259-2827 (9am-5pm, Mon-Fri)
Website: www.snocobw.org

The Providence Everett Sexual Assault Center promotes the emotional and physical healing for people victimized by sexual violence and provides 24-hour crisis line service, medical and legal advocacy, medical examinations, support group services, community education and referrals.

You can contact the Center at:

24-Hour Crisis Line: (425) 252-4800 or 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)
Main Office: (425) 258-7969
Child/Adult Advocates: (425) 258-7844 or (425) 258-7342
Educational Programs: (425) 258-7343
To become a Volunteer Advocate: (425) 258-7969
TTY (hearing impaired): (425) 258-7081

Does Your Spouse or Partner...

- Humiliate or degrade you in public or private?
- Look at you or act in ways that scare you?
- Control what you do and where you go?
- Stop you from seeing or talking to friends and family?
- Take and/or control your money?
- Make all the decisions?
- Tell you you’re a bad parent?
- Threaten to hurt or take away your children?
- Act like the abuse is no big deal, or it’s your fault?
- Destroy your property and/or hurt your pets?
- Intimidate you with guns or other weapons?
- Shove, slap or hit you?
- Force you to drop charges?
- Threaten to commit suicide?
- Threaten to hurt or kill you?

If you checked one or more of these questions, you may be with an abusive partner. It’s not your fault!

Call the Snohomish County Center for Battered Women hot line:

- (425) 25-ABUSE
- (425) 252-2873
(Collect calls are accepted)
Emergency Vehicles- Move Right for Sirens and Lights

During a recent “ride along” with a deputy I had the opportunity to see first hand the life and death importance for drivers to move to the right when an emergency vehicle has sirens and light on. Some drivers did not move over for our patrol car.

Our heavy traffic affects police, fire and aid crews. Especially, when they need to go to a call in a hurry. Minutes count when emergency crews are trying to save lives.

The Sheriff’s Office asks that you move over to the right side of the road, if at all possible and allow the emergency vehicle to pass through.

If you are in a left turn lane, or otherwise cannot move to the right, stay put. Let the emergency vehicle go around you.

Emergency vehicle drivers are trained to pass traffic on the left, even if they have to go into oncoming traffic.

So, please, “Move right for sirens and lights.” Your cooperation will help to save lives.

Steve Moller-Editor