

FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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## FLPD USES EVERBRIDGE AND SAFERWATCH TO ISSUE REGISTERED SEXUAL PREDATOR NOTIFICATIONS

To remain in compliance with Florida State Statute 775.21, and to improve communication with our neighbors, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department will begin using Everbridge Suite and SaferWatch to issue notifications to the public and every licensed child care facility, elementary school, middle school and high school within 1 mile of a sexual predator's temporary or permanent residence.

Notifications will be issued in the form of alerts, text messages, emails and telephone calls depending on the platform and method of communication the user selected when they registered. These notifications will include the following information;

- Name of the sexual predator
- > Description of the sexual predator, to include a photograph
- Their permanent, temporary, and transient addresses
- The circumstances surrounding their offense(s)
- If the victim of the offense(s) was a minor or an adult at the time the offense was committed.

All of the above data is collected when a sexual predator registers with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE). FDLE is responsible for the accuracy and maintenance of information. When new information is entered into FDLE's database, a notification will be sent providing the updated information. Individuals who appear on notifications have already served their sentence(s) and are not currently wanted by law enforcement.

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is confident these notifications will be perceived as informative, increasing awareness rather than causing alarm. The Fort Lauderdale Police Department believes an informed community is a safer community.

Anyone interested in receiving notifications should register via the following link; <u>https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/strategic-</u> <u>communications/alert-ftl</u> or download the SaferWatch app and register at <u>https://www.saferwatchapp.com/</u>.

This information can also be accessed at all times by visiting: <u>https://www.flpd.org/community/florida-sexual-offenders-and-predators</u>. To learn more about the information collected, please visit <u>www.fdle.state.fl</u> or call 1-888-357-7332.