For Immediate Release

Halloween Sex Offender Law Compliance Checks

On Sunday, Oct. 31 (Halloween Night), Springfield Police Officers conducted checks of addresses of registered sex offenders for compliance with the state Halloween Sex Offender Statute. Six offenders were found to be in violation of the statute requirements. Springfield Police Department will be submitting cases on all six violations for review by the Greene County Prosecutor’s Office for the possible filing of formal charges.

Statute 589.426.

1. Halloween, restrictions on conduct — violations, penalty.

   Any person required to register as a sexual offender under sections 589.400 to 589.425 shall be required on October thirty-first of each year to:

   1. Avoid all Halloween-related contact with children;
   2. Remain inside his or her residence between the hours of 5 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. unless required to be elsewhere for just cause, including but not limited to employment or medical emergencies;
   3. Post a sign at his or her residence stating, "No candy or treats at this residence"; and
   4. Leave all outside residential lighting off during the evening hours after 5 p.m.

2. Any person required to register as a sexual offender under sections 589.400 to 589.425 who violates the provisions of subsection 1 of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

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