



OFFICE OF
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KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF

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For Immediate Release:

Sunday, Feb. 22, 2004

KCSO Press Release #04-008/125/32

Media Advisory:

Level III sex offender community notification

Port Orchard, Wash. -- The Kitsap County Sheriff's Office is releasing the following information pursuant to RCW 4.24.550, and a Washington State Supreme Court decision in *State v. Ward*, regarding public notification of the anticipated residency of convicted sexual offender.

The individual named in this advisory has been convicted of criminal offenses that require registration with the Sheriff's Office in the county of his residence. Further, his previous criminal history places him in a classification level that reflects the *potential* to re-offend.

A community notification meeting, concerning the residency of this Level III sex offender, is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26, in Givens Community Center, Olympic Room, 1026 Sidney Avenue, Port Orchard. Sheriff's detectives will be available to discuss the program and to answer questions.

Name: Ricardo Zamudio, Hispanic male, age 38.

Residence location: Zamudio is scheduled to relocate to Kitsap County on March 1. He has an approved residence in the 4000 block of State Highway 3, SW, Bremerton. Zamudio was released from prison last September and has since been living in Mason County.

Description: 5'11" ht., 220 lbs. wt., black-colored hair and brown-colored eyes. Zamudio has a tattoo on the left side of his neck.

Criminal history: Zamudio was convicted in 1993 for sexually abusing a young boy whom he was babysitting. In 1992 Zamudio raped a teenaged girl. In 1984, Zamudio was convicted of sexual battery in California for rape of an adult woman. Zamudio has declined to participate in sexual deviancy treatment while he has been imprisoned; he denies responsibility for committing any of the recent offenses.

While incarcerated Zamudio committed 14 major infractions to include extortion, strong-arming, possession of a controlled substance and fighting. He has had past associations with various security-threat organizations including Hispanic and Native American gangs. Zamudio has been assessed as a high risk to re-offend.

Ricardo Zamudio has served the sentence imposed on him by the courts. He has advised the Sheriff's Office that he will be living within Kitsap County. Zamudio is not wanted by law enforcement at this time. This notification is not intended to increase fear; rather, an informed public is a safer public.

The Sheriff's Office has no legal authority to direct where a registered sex offender may or may not reside. Unless court-ordered restrictions exist, an offender is constitutionally free to live wherever he or she chooses.

Sexual offenders have always lived within our communities. It wasn't until passage of legislation entitled the "Community Protection Act of 1990," which mandates sex offender registration, that law enforcement even knew where they were living.

Abuse of information provided through the sex offender notification process, in order to intimidate, harass or threaten a registered offender, will result in an investigation and the filing of criminal charges against the perpetrators. Such abuse could potentially end law enforcement's ability to conduct community notifications. The only person who 'wins,' if community notification is halted, is the registered sex offender, as sexual offenders derive their power through secrecy.

As of Feb. 10, there are 17,899 sex offenders who have registered as required (since Feb. 28, 1990) and are living in Washington State. Of this number 435 are registered to the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office, living at county addresses, and 135 offenders are registered to addresses within the limits of incorporated cities within the county.

The Sheriff's Community Resource Officer, Deputy Pete Ball, is available to assist communities in establishing block or neighborhood watch programs and to provide the public with information on personal safety. He may be contacted at (360) 337-7074.

For further information on registered sex offenders within Kitsap County, contact Detective Steve Duckworth, at (360) 337-5669. Concerned residents are urged to attend the community notification meeting at Givens Community Center.

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