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SIGN UP FOR MONMOUTH COUNTY SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY

Confidential list helps first responders in times of emergency

9/26/16, *Asbury Park, NJ* – The Monmouth County Special Needs Registry is open and free to all who live, work, or go to school in Monmouth County. Those with special needs and physical or mental disabilities are encouraged to sign up for the confidential list, which will only be used by first responders in the case of an emergency.

The registry was created to help police officers, fire fighters, EMS personnel, and other emergency service personnel have all the information they need in order to best serve those with special needs. Its goal is to ensure that members of the Monmouth County community with special needs are able to get the help and support they need in case of an emergency of any kind.

Free, confidential registry and more information is available at www.MCSNRNJ.org. If applicants don't have computer or internet access, the Asbury Park Public Library will provide free internet access, and the program plans to have sign-up events in the near future. The program is completely voluntary. Unless power of attorney has been given to another person, adults cannot be signed up without their consent.

The information requested includes name, date of birth, height, weight, emergency contact information, details of their special needs, and a recent photo. Optional information includes blood type, prescribed medications, and contact information for treating physicians. Every registrant will be given two window decals that they have the option of placing at the front entrance of their residence and any vehicle they regularly travel in. The presence of the decal will communicate to first responders that someone in the residence or vehicle has a degree of special needs, and that they should respond accordingly. If no decal is present, the first responders will still be made aware through the registry that someone at the location has special needs, so they can adjust their response accordingly.

“The Special Needs Registry helps to create a winning situation for first responders and special needs citizens,” Sergeant Terry Williams said. “It provides first responders with the ability to receive vital information they need, in a timely manner, to more adequately serve our special needs citizens.”

The Monmouth County Special Needs Registry is a joint collaboration between the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office, the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, and the Monmouth County Police Chiefs Association.