

SAFETY TIPS

Discuss and practice how to interact with police with your loved one. This will help prepare them should they have an encounter with law enforcement.

Introduce your loved one to police officers in your community.

Schedule a visit the Safety Complex. Your loved ones' first interaction with an officer should not be during a crisis. Visits can be scheduled by contacting Officer Michael Matracia at 401-243-6105.

In crisis situations, your presence could be a resource to officers. Identify your role as a caregiver and offer assistance. Identify your role as a caregiver and offer assistance. You may also request to be present during an interview.

If the individual does not use verbal communication or is limited, please let the officer know which method of communication is most effective for the person.

When calling for police services, inform the call taker of the persons ASD diagnosis, and most effective strategies to interact with them.

Additional Resources

The Autism Project

(401) 785-2666

www.theautismproject.org

Autism Society of Rhode Island

riautismsociety@gmail.com

www.asa-ri.org

National Autism Association

(877) 622-2884

www.nationalautismassociation.org

Public Safety Special Needs

Coalition

PSSNCRI@gmail.com

Contact

The Providence Police Department

325 Washington Street

Providence RI 02903

Captain Henry Remolina

hremolina@providenceri.gov

(401) 243-6101



**Providence Police Department
Autism
Home Safe
Alert Program**

PPD Autism Home Safe Alert Program

First Responders are likely to encounter one or more individuals who have an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), a developmental disability that can affect a person's behavior, communication, and understanding of danger or consequences.

The Providence Police Department's Autism Home Safe Alert System is a volunteer enrollment program for children and adults that have ASD.

The information provided upon enrollment will be used by the Providence Police Department in identifying a child or adult in need, and help officers to safely and effectively interact with individuals with ASD.

Enrollment

Enrollment can be completed at anytime. Forms are available with the Desk Sergeant at the Providence Public Safety Complex located at 325 Washington Street.

Information requested will include biographical, descriptive, and individualized information such as communication methods and sensory issues. Contact information will also be requested. Providing pictures of individuals that are being enrolled is optional.

The Providence Police Department will use this data when responding to a request for service and/or when interacting with the person enrolled.

It is estimated that individuals with ASD will have seven times more contacts with law enforcement during their lifetimes than the general population.

Q & A

Q. Do you have to live in Providence to enroll in this program?

A. While the program is primarily for Providence residents, if the individual attends school, works, or attends a program in Providence, they can be enrolled.

Q. Who is responsible for updating enrollment forms?

A. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to contact the PPD with any changes.

Q. As soon as I complete the enrollment process, will the information be immediately available in case police response is required?

A. No. The enrollment form will need to be entered into our system.