

**LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MEDIA RELEASE**

DATE: 10/23/09

EVENT #: N/A

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

To: Clark County Citizens  
From: Sheriff Douglas C. Gillespie  
Re: Halloween and Trick-or-Treat Safety Tips

Sheriff D. Gillespie wants everyone in Las Vegas to have a happy and safe Halloween. Please review the following safety tips from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department:

1. Visit [www.lvmpd.com](http://www.lvmpd.com)
2. Search for known sex offenders in your area to stay informed and plan your trick or treating routes accordingly. (Offender location maps are available for you to review.)
3. Have a plan for the festivities and discuss safety tips (also found on the web site).
4. Discuss the designated trick-or-treating route with children and have a known plan should children become separated in a large crowd of other trick-or-treaters.
5. Never let children trick or treat alone. If a parent isn't accompanying older teenagers, they should stay in groups with other responsible adolescents, have check-in times, and a designated route known to parents/guardians.
6. Accompany younger children to the door of every home they approach.
7. Never let children enter homes without a parent and/or guardian's permission.
8. Never let children approach dark or dimly lit homes.
9. Dial 311 or 911 (whichever is appropriate for the situation) to report any suspicious activity immediately.
10. Never let children consume candy or treats without examining the candy prior.
11. Make sure children wear reflective clothing that doesn't restrict their movement or vision. (Encourage carrying safe lighting such as a flashlight or glow-stick.)
12. Discuss stranger danger and vehicle safety with children and teach them to never approach a vehicle, occupied or not, unless they are accompanied by a parent or guardian.
13. Teach children if anyone tries to grab them to make a scene, loudly yell "this person is not my father/mother/guardian", and make every effort to get away by kicking, screaming, and resisting. *(This safety tip is from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.)*

There are over 4000 total registered sex offenders in the Las Vegas valley and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department tracks over 2100 offenders. Our Sex Offender Apprehension Program pro-actively ensures sex offenders are living where they've reported they live in order to bring you up to date information on our web site, [www.lvmpd.com](http://www.lvmpd.com)

Citizens are encouraged to visit the web site and review the list of registered sex offenders living within a 2 mile radius of their homes, parks, schools, etc. The mapping and addresses contained on the web site are updated daily to bring you the most up-to-date information available so that you can plan the best routes for your children during the Halloween festivities.

Knowledge is power. Knowing where the registered sex offenders reside in your area and following a few key safety tips can help you make the best choices for a safe and enjoyable holiday.