

THURMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

**GENERAL
ORDER**

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Authority: Chief of Police
Gregory L. Eyer

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Subject: **Project Lifesaver**

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This Directive is for internal use only, and other than as contraindicated here this Directive does not create or enlarge this Department's, governmental entity's, any of this Department's officers, and/or any other entities' civil, criminal, and/or other accountability in any way. This Directive is not to be construed as the creation of a standard of safety or care in any sense, with respect to any complaint, demand for settlement, or any other form of grievance, litigation, and/or other action. Deviations from this Directive, if substantiated, can only form the basis for intra-Departmental administrative action(s) (including discipline and/or termination).

I. PROJECT LIFESAVER (PLS)

- A. The Frederick County Sheriff's Office is designated Project Lifesaver agency for Frederick County, Maryland.
- B. Project Lifesaver is a pilot program of proactive involvement and specialized search and rescue operations that respond to missing person incidents where PLS registered victims of Alzheimer's disease, Autism, and other related disorders have "wandered away." Project Lifesaver relies on proven radio technology and a specially trained search and rescue team. Clients that are enrolled in the Project Lifesaver program wear a personalized wristband that transmits an individually assigned tracking signal. When a caregiver notifies us that the person is missing, a trained search and rescue team responds to the wanderer's area and initiates the search with the mobile locater tracking system.
- C. Response to a reported missing person, registered with Project Lifesaver, will be handled as a "Critical Missing" individual.
- D. Program responsibilities:
 - 1. Frederick County Sheriff's Office Community Services Supervisor is responsible

for the overall administration of the PLS program including training, client/caregiver relations, client files, equipment control. Equipment maintenance, and serving as liaison with sponsoring organizations. Additionally, the Community Services Supervisor reviews and amends the Project Lifesaver SOP as necessary.

2. Communications will notify the on-duty Shift Supervisor when a PLS “client” is reported missing.
 3. On-duty Shift Supervisor will notify appropriate Response Search Personnel to report.
 4. P.I.S. will maintain a call-out list of trained Response Search Personnel.
 5. Incident Commander will ensure Response Search Personnel have necessary equipment and background file(s), respond to the last known location of the missing person, and coordinate a debriefing and submit an after-action report consistent with requirements of the Project Lifesaver SOP.
 6. Response Search Personnel (RSP) will respond, with appropriate equipment and “client” file, to the last known location (LKL) of the missing person when notified. Following a search operation, RSP will submit appropriate report(s) to the Incident Commander, with copies to the Community Services Supervisor, documenting their activities.
- E. Detailed procedures and forms are contained in the Project Lifesaver SOP issued to all PLS trained personnel.
- F. Equipment and client files are stored in the Community Services Section at the Law Enforcement Center (LEC). Additional equipment is available at the Brunswick PD, the Thurmont PD, and the Maryland State Police (helicopter).
- G. PLS certified instructors will provide training and retraining on procedures and equipment to all Response Search Personnel and Patrol Supervisors. Additionally, the FCSO will provide training to allied agencies in Frederick County that participate in Project Lifesaver.

ATTACHMENTS :

DOCUMENT DATES :

Amended Date:

Review Date:

Review Date:

Review Date:

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Order Written By: Chief Gregory L. Eyler

Order Edited and Approved By: Chief Gregory L. Eyler

Accreditation Standards Included in this Order

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