

# **PROJECT LIFESAVER**

STANDARD NO(S):

NYSLEAP: 29.2

DATE:

June 17, 2015  
Revised 05/28/2019

REFER TO:

Tim Thompson  
John P. Cleere

## **I. POLICY:**

It is the Policy of the Seneca County Sheriff's Office to utilize Project Lifesaver to provide comfort to the families of those who wander due to illness or disability, without compromising the safety or dignity of their loved one.

## **II. OBJECTIVE:**

To provide guidelines for the utilization of Project Lifesaver, creating a partnership between the community, the families of those affected and the Public Safety personnel, in an effort to identify and locate individuals who become lost.

## **III. PROCEDURE:**

- A.** Project Lifesaver emphasizes relationships between specially trained Sheriff's personnel and the people who may wander, before the need may arise for a rescue. A Deputy assigned to Project Lifesaver Team will conduct an initial interview at Seneca County Sheriff's Office Headquarters or at the client's home to enroll the client by completing Agreement for Project Lifesaver (SCSO-LE-016) and, either a Autism/Downs Syndrome/Under age 18 Client Worksheet (SCSO-LE-017), or Alzheimer/Dementia Client Worksheet (SCSO-LE-018). At that time the personalized wristband will be applied and family members and caregivers will be provided a comprehensive overview of the program. Deputies assigned to the Project Lifesaver Team shall be trained in communicating with a person who has Alzheimer's, Autism, or a similar disease, and will schedule bi-monthly home visits, or as needed to inspect and maintain the equipment and ensure its operability.
- B.** If an individual enrolled in the Project Lifesaver program wanders off, the family or care provider will notify the 911 Center, who will dispatch the closest available patrol unit to the scene, and notify the Seneca County Sheriff's Office Project Lifesaver Search Team On-Call personnel.

- C.** The Sheriff's Office Search Team shall respond and commence a search utilizing the Project Lifesaver search equipment. The Sheriff's Office can deploy two receivers and a helicopter if needed, which are capable of identifying and locating lost individuals who are wearing the wristband transmitter.
- D.** The Project Lifesaver Search Team shall be responsible for coordinating the rescue efforts with responding Public Safety personnel, and requesting additional resources should they be required ( i.e. Fire Department(s), EMS, Aviation, etc.).
- E.** The enrolled person's biographical, medical and historical data will be available to the responding units through the Project Lifesaver website which is available to the Seneca County E-911 Center and all Seneca County Law Enforcement agencies.
- F.** The initial responding police unit, regardless of agency, shall be responsible for completing an incident report. Responding SCSO Project Lifesaver Team Deputies shall complete supplemental reports
- G.** A notification shall be made by the SCSO duty Sergeant to the Road Patrol Lieutenant who will then follow the procedures outlined in Administrative Notifications policy anytime the Project Lifesaver Team is utilized.
- H.** Notification of any Project Lifesaver search will be made to Project Lifesaver International by a member of the SCSO Project Lifesaver Team.

#### **IV. TRAINING:**

- A.** In-service training for SCSO Project Lifesaver Team members shall be conducted quarterly to maintain familiarity with Project Lifesaver equipment and procedures.