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SENECA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND WATERLOO POLICE DEPARTMENT HOST JOINT CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSPECTION AND OPERATION SAFE CHILD ID PROGRAM

Seneca County Sheriff Jack Stenberg and Waterloo Police Chief Doyle Marquart have announced that both agencies will be co-hosting a Child Safety Seat Inspection and Operation Safe Child ID Program on February 22, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Waterloo Fire Department, 39 East Water Street, Waterloo, New York.

Certified Child Safety Seat Technicians from the Seneca County Sheriff's Office and Waterloo Police will perform inspections of Child Safety Seats to ensure they are of the proper type and installed correctly.

Operation Safe Child Statistics show that 34 percent of parents in the United States do not know their child's exact height, weight and eye color. And, when a child is reported missing, time can be the greatest adversary. Possessing up-to-date photographs and detailed information about a child are important proactive measures that greatly assist law enforcement to quickly respond to a child's disappearance. SAFE CHILD equipment uses digital fingerprinting technology and high resolution photography capabilities to produce SAFE CHILD cards for parents and guardians.

The cards contain a child's name, biographical information (date of birth, gender, height, weight, hair color, eye color, etc.), and a fingerprint image of both index fingers. The card is made in less than two minutes and can be easily carried in a wallet or pocketbook. Interested parents can choose to store the fingerprints, basic biographical information and photographs of children who are not missing -- information critical to expediting the return of a missing child. The storage of information is entirely voluntary and requires the written consent of a parent or legal guardian. The information gathered is digitally recorded and stored in a database at DCJS. In the event DCJS receives a missing child report, the fingerprints of that child are included in a special search file and compared against all incoming fingerprints submitted to the agency.

In addition to being able to quickly provide important details to police agencies investigating child disappearances, the SAFE CHILD card serves as an important tool when used in conjunction with the [AMBER Alert and DCJS Missing Child/College Student Alert programs](#). The cards and database allow essential missing child information to be electronically disseminated, statewide if necessary, within minutes and dramatically increases the possibility of bringing a missing child home unharmed.

This event is open to any and all Seneca County residents. Walk-in's are welcome, however, reservations are requested by contacting the Seneca County Sheriff's Office at 315-220-3250 or Waterloo Police Department at 315-539-2022.