

## **SAMPLE LETTER**

On (insert date), (name of school or district) received notification from (name of law enforcement agency) that a registered sex offender is living in the community near the school. We are providing this information in order that parents and guardians may take appropriate actions to protect the safety of their children. The California Department of Justice provides the following precautions to reduce the risk to yourself and your family:

- Practice good security – at home, at the office, and in your vehicle.
- Be alert to locations and situations that make you and your family vulnerable to crime, and be aware of people around you and your family.
- Educate yourself on crime prevention tactics. For assistance, contact your local law enforcement agency or the Crime and Violence Prevention Center of the California Attorney General's Office.

Please teach your children to avoid situations that put them in danger of abuse, molestation, or abduction. Many parents warn their children not to talk to strangers but more often than not, an abuser or abductor knows the child and the child knows the abductor. Children should know from an early age that some behavior is not acceptable, and that they have the right to tell an adult to leave them alone. Here are some specific rules you can teach your child:

- Stay away from people who call you near their car, even if they offer to take you somewhere exciting.
- If someone tries to take you, yell "THIS PERSON IS NOT MY FATHER (OR MOTHER) AND SCREAM."
- No one should touch you in the parts covered by your bathing suit, and you should not be asked to touch anyone there.
- Don't let anyone take your picture without permission from your parent or teacher.
- Tell a trusted adult.

For further information regarding any registered sex offender and ways of protecting children, parents should contact the San Diego Police Department, Office of Sex Registrants at (619) 531-1543.

Sincerely,

Name of Principal

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