



## PRESS RELEASE

**Contact:** Deputy Shane Scofield  
970-356-4015 x 3909 Office  
970-381-7042 Cell  
[sscofield@co.weld.co.us](mailto:sscofield@co.weld.co.us)

**JOHN B. COOKE**  
SHERIFF

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – October 30, 2009**

### *HALLOWEEN & REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS – SAFETY TIPS*

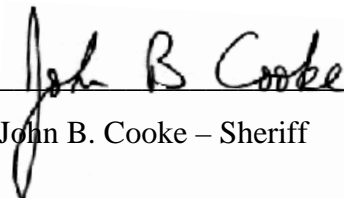
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Greeley, Colo. – The Weld County Sheriff's Office wants all children to have a safe and fun Halloween. Parents should be aware of ways to keep their children safe; including ways to discuss this with their children. Registered sex offenders often pose a concern to some citizens. Anyone can easily view the location of registered sex offenders. The Weld County Sheriff's Office maintains a website that will assist the community in locating areas where registered sex offenders reside. The website can be accessed at [www.weldsheriff.com](http://www.weldsheriff.com). This website includes sex offenders who are registered with the Weld County Sheriff's Office, and the jurisdictions of Ault, Johnstown, Milliken, Pierce, and Windsor. Links to other jurisdictions' registered sex offender websites for the municipalities of Evans and Greeley are also available on the Sheriff's Office website. The knowledge of the location of sex offenders is not a guarantee of safety. By knowing the locations and these basic tips you can increase your chances of a safe holiday.

- There are offenders who may have moved to or from these jurisdictions and have not notified the police of their whereabouts.
- A majority of sex crimes are not reported to police which means that many sex offenders have not been identified.
- Most sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows. A stranger does not pose the highest risk to you.
- Parents are a child's first line of defense. If children are going to trick or treat they should be accompanied by a parent or other trusted adult. They should be accompanied to the door of every house they approach. Children should never trick or treat alone and if an adult is not going to accompany them they should be in groups.
- They should be taught to NEVER enter any house without permission from a parent. They should not approach any vehicle. They need to be told to scream and run from anyone who tries to grab them or force them, in any way, to go with them.

- Suspicious incidents should be reported to the police.
- A good alternative to trick or treating is for parents to organize parties at home, in schools, or community centers.

Have a happy and safe Halloween!



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John B. Cooke – Sheriff

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