## WAKEFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT



One Union Street, Wakefield, Massachusetts, 01880Emergency 911Business 781-245-1212Fax 781-245-1299

# SILVER ALERT PROGRAM

The Wakefield Police Department has developed the Wakefield Silver Alert Program in order to help improve the response time when a person with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or other severe cognitive impairment is reported missing.

The Silver Alert Program is part of Wakefield's efforts to implement the Massachusetts' Silver Alert Community Response System on a local level. The Massachusetts Silver Alert Law outlines a set of procedures and communications protocols among state and local public safety and human service agencies in order to identify people with dementia who have wandered or become lost and return them safely to their homes.

Over sixty percent of people with Alzheimer's or a related disorder will wander. Any family that is directly affected by dementia should consider registering for Silver Alert. Very few families expect a family member to go missing until it happens for the first time. Approximately six in ten dementia victims will wander at least once, health-care statistics show, and the numbers are growing worldwide, fueled primarily by Alzheimer's disease. If not found within 24 hours, up to half of wandering seniors with dementia suffer serious injury or death.

The program involves working with people who have a family member at risk of wandering in order to collect information and a recent photograph that can help the police identify and locate the person. Collecting this confidential information before an incident occurs enables the police department to begin search procedures immediately, as collection of data after the person has already gone missing can delay an effective search for an hour or more, increasing the chances that the wanderer will be in danger.

There is no age requirement to be entered into this program. Residents who have a loved one with a serious cognitive impairment are encouraged to contact <u>Officer Toothaker</u> at 339-219-4519 for more information.

### WAKEFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### Wakefield Alert-Registration Form

For more information please call 339-219-4519

A collaboration bewtween the Wakefield Police Department and the Wakefield Council on Aging to protect residents with serious cognitive impairments.

Name of Potential Wand	derer			
Date of Birth		SS# (optional)		
Primary Address				
Primary Telephone		Secondary Telephone		
Gender		Height		
Build		Race		
Hair Color	Hair Style	Facial Hair & Style (beard, etc)	Length of Facial Hair	
Eye Color	Eye Glasses	Eye Glass Style	Contact Lenses	

#### **REPORTING PARTY**

Name of Reporting Party		Relationship to the Applicant		
Primary telephone number	Secondary telephone number	Email		
Address of Reporting Party				
Signature of Reporting Party		Today's Date		

Submit completed registration form and recent photo to the Wakefield Police Department in person or by mail to:

1 Union Street, Wakefield, MA 01880

Attn: Off. Toothaker