



# DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff Chad Enright Chief Deputy

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 24, 2023

Sheriff Dale J. Schmidt  
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### Special Needs Alert Form

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce the availability of our new "Special Needs Alert Form" to aid Dodge County First Responders in response to the various needs of our community.

Law Enforcement, Fire Departments, and EMS Professionals encounter individuals every day who struggle with disabilities such as blindness, cognitive impairment, deafness, prone to seizures, and others. We want to be prepared and be able to respond to the needs of our citizens to the best of our ability. Knowing that someone is autistic and also knowing what may upset them or calm them down, can be extremely helpful in finding the best solution possible for that person and their family.

If you or someone in your family live in Dodge County and may struggle with a disability having special needs, fill out the form on the Dodge County Sheriff's Office website at [www.dodgecountysheriff.com](http://www.dodgecountysheriff.com) or on the Dodge County Sheriff's Office App available for download from your Android or Apple App Store.

Once we receive the information, it will be maintained in our countywide records management system and available to first responders, as well as our 911 communications professionals. Information will be relayed to responders who need that information quickly so that we can provide the best possible service to our citizens.

Additionally, as part of this request form, you can sign up to be contacted regarding Dodge County's Project Lifesaver program available to the residents of the county to assist caregivers of loved ones who are prone to wandering, especially those with conditions such as Alzheimer's, dementia, autism, and Down syndrome. The program involves placing an FM transmitter, similar to a wristwatch, on the arm or leg of a person who is prone to wander. If the person wanders away, the caregiver can contact the Dodge County Sheriff's Office and trained personnel will respond and assist in locating the individual using equipment designed for locating the signal from the transmitter. Since the program's inception by the Dodge County Sheriff's Office in 2015, the Beaver Dam Police Department has also joined the program enhancing the program's capabilities for citizens in Beaver Dam and Dodge County.

Sheriff Dale Schmidt and our staff are committed to serving all members of our community, including those with special needs, and this is one more way in which we can meet those needs and respond appropriately to keep our community safe.

Questions can be directed to Sheriff Dale Schmidt

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