FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY

City of Franklin Police Department
Sgt. Jeremy Fadness
Objectives

- Introductions
- Franklin Demographic Information
- History of the Franklin Police Department’s efforts to protect at risk populations
- What is the Special Needs Registry and how does it work
- How has it been used
- Conclusions
Introductions

- Sgt. Jeremy Fadness
  - 19 years experience
    - 13 years as a Patrol Officer
    - 5 years as a Detective (Sensitive Crimes)
    - 1 year as a Sergeant
  - I have the distinct honor of being the first Sergeant to be promoted from the Detective Bureau on our department
DEM OGRAPHICS

City of Franklin

- Founded in 1956
  - To avoid annexation from Milwaukee
- Named after Benjamin Franklin
- Approximately 36 square miles
  - Includes business, farms, and neighborhoods
- Population 35,520
Structure

- 59 Sworn Officers
  - Chief of Police
  - Inspector
  - 3 Captains
  - 8 Sergeants
  - 49 Officers
    - 43 Patrol Officers
    - 5 Detectives
    - 1 School Resource Officer
History of PROTECTING AT Risk POPULATIONS

 Prior to modern computing was not an easy task

 1970’ and 1980’s
  • Records were kept manually on 3x5 cards
  • Franklin was more rural
  • A program was in place for the elderly residents
    ○ They would receive 2 phone calls per day
      • Gave them someone to talk to, and we would assess their needs
Special Needs Registry

- How it came about
  - 2013 the program was implemented
    - In response to incidents in policing where police did not have all of the information when dealing with at risk individuals
    - Example Milwaukee PD in-custody death
  - Program is Data driven
    - Much easier for us now
    - Police have historically been behind in this area
      - Funding
      - Lack of interest
      - Arrogance
The City of Franklin Police Department recognizes that some members of our community may have special needs or may react a little different when they come in contact with someone unfamiliar to them, such as a police officer or firefighter.

With that in mind, we have created a **Special Needs Registry**

- Where parents or caregivers can provide us with information that will help us have a more informed response
- The **Special Needs Registry** is available for all ages, whether the condition is physical, emotional or medical.
- We have found this to be especially helpful for families with autistic children and those caring for the elderly who have Alzheimer’s or Dementia.
Current Status

- Currently we have 13 participants
  - It has been used successfully on 1 occasion
  - We have promoted the program through:
    - Website (City/Police)
    - Local news media
    - Facebook
    - And specifically targeted enrollment drives:
      - National Night Out
      - Safety Days
      - Group PD Tours
Successful Use

- April 2018
- Target Store on Hwy 100 and Drexel Ave
- Incident
  - Autistic child had wandered away from home/Mother called our department
  - Officers were sent to Target based on information in the registry
  - Officers located the child and were able to handle him without incident due to information in the registry, and reunite him with his mother
Conclusion

- The Franklin Police Department is committed to implementing more data driven police responses.
- Historically we have always tried to be responsive to our at risk populations.
- The Special Needs Registry and it’s success is important to the overall protection of our community.
Questions