

Intro. Res. No. 1026-2009

Laid on Table 2/3/2009

Introduced by Legislators Stern, Romaine, Schneiderman, Browning, Losquadro, Eddington, Montano, Alden, Lindsay, Vilorio-Fisher, Barraga, Kennedy, Nowick, Horsley, Gregory, D'Amaro, and Cooper

**RESOLUTION NO. 144 -2009, CREATING A SILVER ALERT SYSTEM IN SUFFOLK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, senior citizens make up the fastest growing population sector in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, senior citizens are vulnerable to dementia, Alzheimer's, and other cognitive disorders as they age, with millions currently living with these ailments across the country and millions more will be diagnosed in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, senior citizens and other individuals afflicted with dementia, Alzheimer's and other cognitive disorders are at an increased risk of wandering away from their loved ones and/or caretakers into a world that has become unfamiliar to them; and

**WHEREAS**, seniors and other individuals suffering from these disorders are at an increased risk of harm or abuse when they wander from their caretakers' supervision, with this risk increasing exponentially the longer they remain missing; and

**WHEREAS**, other states and counties across the United States have developed a Silver Alert System, similar in nature to the Amber Alert System, which allows local law enforcement to disseminate to media outlets vital information about senior citizens who have wandered from their caretakers, to aid in the search and safe return of these individuals to those responsible for them; and

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County is a leader in providing essential services to protect our vulnerable populations; now, therefore be it

**1st RESOLVED**, that the Suffolk County Police Department is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to develop a Silver Alert System that will provide vital information about missing senior citizens and other individuals suffering from Alzheimer's, dementia, and other cognitive disorders to the public in an effort to expedite the search and safe recovery of these individuals; and be it further

**2nd RESOLVED**, that the Suffolk County Police Department is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to create and maintain a database of individuals and organizations to be contacted when a senior citizen or other individual suffering from a cognitive disorder is reported missing; and be it further

**3rd RESOLVED**, that the Suffolk County Police Department will develop a system by which vital information shall be delivered to the members of the database and the public, via media or other outlets, regarding a missing senior citizen or other individual suffering from a cognitive disorder; and be it further

**4th RESOLVED**, that the Suffolk County Police Department will issue a Silver Alert each time a senior citizen or other individual suffering from a cognitive disorder is reported missing via 911; and be it further

**5th** **RESOLVED**, that the alert distributed to the public shall contain the following information:

- 1) the missing individual's name;
- 2) the missing individual's age;
- 3) a physical description of the missing individual;
- 4) the last location where the missing individual was seen; and
- 5) the description of any motor vehicle the missing individual may be driving and the direction in which it was last seen traveling;

and be it further

**6th** **RESOLVED**, the Suffolk County Police Department shall fully develop and implement the Silver Alert System within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this resolution; and be it further

**7th** **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: March 3, 2009

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steve Levy  
County Executive of Suffolk County

DATE: March 17, 2009