

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



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COUNTY LEGISLATURE

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Legislator Browning Teams Up with Parents for Megan's Law to Notify Long Island Photography Studios of Predatory Sex Offender Photographer

- Robert Liguori Level 2 Sex Offender Arrested Again for Stalking and Unlawful Surveillance -

Mastic, NY - Working with Legislator Kate Browning, a mailing was released today by Parents for Megan's Law to warn 446 Long Island photography studios of the registration status of Level 2 sex offender Robert Liguori, who allegedly used his position as a photographer to gain access to victims. The mailing includes detailed sex offender registration information and a photograph of Robert Liguori, a sex offender currently incarcerated in Riverhead Correctional Facility after two additional arrests for stalking and unlawful surveillance. The mailing serves as a reminder to business owners, operators and managers that there are free resources available to check sex offender registration status for any individual who applies for a position, per-diem job or contracts with an organization for services.

"It is critical that businesses dealing with vulnerable populations are utilizing all available resources to properly vet their employees," stated Suffolk County Legislator Browning. "Owners can search the sex offender registry for free, and the time and effort of doing so can help ensure the protection of our children from those that seek to prey on them. When businesses do not check the registration status of employees they are putting themselves and their clients at risk, and I am hopeful this outreach in conjunction with Parents for Megan's Law will help change hiring policies across Suffolk County."

Laura Ahearn, Executive Director of Parents for Megan's Law and the Crime Victims Center said, "Robert Liguori's profession places him in a unique position to access potential victims in a position of trust. I commend Legislator Browning for her recommendation that the agency conduct outreach to ensure that photography studios on Long Island are made aware of the potential risk that he poses."

Background:

Robert L. Liguori, a registered Level 2 sex offender, former substitute teacher and freelance photographer, was arrested in September 2012 on a stalking charge after allegedly exposing himself while wearing a dress in a Center Moriches woman's clothing store. Two weeks later, Liguori was arrested again for allegedly sneaking a video camera into a dressing room and filming swimsuit models on July 12, 2012, during "Off the Record" in The Hamptons Wine & Dine Event in Southampton.

Liguori, a self-proclaimed photographer and artist gained access to the Southampton event as a freelance photographer looking for work. According to sources, Liguori has also allegedly worked as a per-diem photographer for Long Island media outlets.

Liguori has numerous prior arrests and a history with failing to comply with conditions of supervised release:

- In 1998 Liguori was arrested in the parking lot of Brentwood North Middle School, where he was working as a substitute home economics teacher, on suspicion of trafficking child pornography (according to a 1998 Newsday article). Liguori had previously taught in the Center Moriches, Middle Country and Longwood School Districts. In February of 2000, Liguori plead guilty to a federal charge of transporting child pornographic material in interstate commerce and was sentenced to 55 months of imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release.

- After release, in 2006 he was sentenced to an additional 10 months of prison for failing to comply with his supervision conditions.
 - In 2007 he was sentenced to an additional 3 months for again failing to comply with supervisory conditions.
- In 1997 Liguori plead guilty to harassment
- In 1985, Liguori was convicted of Robbery in California

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