

# *OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF MONTEREY COUNTY*

## NEWS RELEASE

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*For information:* Coastal Patrol Station 647-7702  
Commander Alan Wheelus 755-3761

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### **Sheriff Kanalakis Implements Project Lifesaver**

Sheriff Kanalakis has now implemented Project Lifesaver. This county-wide program is designed to locate elderly persons with Alzheimer's disease or others that may wander away from home or other locations and may become lost due to disorientation. The program is being coordinated through the Sheriff's Coastal Patrol Station in Monterey. At risk persons will be issued an armband that can be tracked with special equipment either from the ground or by air.

Once a client signs up, they will be issued the bracelet, a battery tester, and a battery. The cost to the client will be \$300.00 a year to cover the cost of replacement armbands and batteries. The client's caretaker will be responsible for checking the armband daily with the battery tester to insure the bracelet is working properly. Each month, an assigned patrol Deputy will visit the client and replace the battery. This visit will include any update in the profile of the client.

Should the client go missing, specially trained Office members will be dispatched to begin searching for the missing person using directional finding equipment. Simultaneously, the Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team will be dispatched to begin a conventional search.

One unit is currently in service. Other units are available.

Questions about the program can be directed to the Coastal Patrol Station at (831) 647-7702.