

## Special Needs Registration

Published on City of Great Falls Montana (<http://www.greatfallsmt.net>)

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# Special Needs Registration

### Parents of Special Children and Adults:

Capt. John Schaffer  
Great Falls Police Department  
112 1st Street South  
PO Box 5021  
Great Falls, MT 59403

Thursday, May 8th, 2011

Dear Parents,

As a fellow parent of a child with special needs we all have concerns about how our loved one will function in a real world setting. The Great Falls Public Schools does a great job of teaching our children the life skills needed to live as independently and as integrated as possible.

As a police officer, we come in contact with persons with special needs all the time. People with autism, like my daughter, are 7 times more likely to have contact with law enforcement. Police officers receive ongoing training on how to interact with people with special needs in order to increase the likelihood of a positive outcome, but we need your help.

You are the best source of information when it comes to your child or loved one. You know their likes and dislikes, their triggers or sensory issues, as well as de-escalation techniques. These are the things that we would like to know, should we come in contact with your family member.

Attached you will find a form that we would like you to fill out. It is completely voluntary. The information on this form, including the photo, will be submitted to the GFPD database. When a police officer has contact with the person listed on the form, our 911 Center can provide us with the information needed to successfully interact and communicate with your loved one, as well as your contact information. The information will be kept confidential.

Thank you for your interest in this program. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the Great Falls Police Department. My phone number is (406) 771-1180 Ext. 412

Sincerely,

Captain John Schaffer

Great Falls Police Department

### Supporting Documents

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[911\\_database\\_for\\_for\\_persons\\_with\\_special\\_needs.pdf](#) (1010 KB) (PDF)

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