

## **SUN CITY CENTER SENIOR SAFETY ZONE**

On March 31, 2008, Sun City Center was officially designated a Senior Safety Zone as defined in Hillsborough County Ordinance Number 07-12. The intent of this Ordinance, known as the "Sexual Predator Senior Protection Ordinance" is to promote, protect and improve the health, safety and welfare of our senior citizens by creating locations wherein certain sexual predators are prohibited from establishing temporary or permanent residence.

This Ordinance prohibits sexual predators from residing in any residential property within the approved Sun City Center Senior Safety Zone. The boundary of this zone is displayed in a graphic also approved by Hillsborough County on March 31, 2008. In addition, this ordinance further prohibits any sexual predator from establishing a permanent or temporary residence within 1,000 feet of the boundary of this designated Senior Safety Zone. In short, the Senior Safety Zone designation provides Sun City Center with protection against Sexual Predators using our city as a haven because they have been banned from other cities and locations.

The meaning of *Sexual Predator* is provided in Florida Statutes Section 775.21(4).

The Community Association, as sponsor of this designation for Sun City Center, has implemented the required public notice by posting the applicable signage at both the CA Central and South Campuses. In the future, if necessary, it is planned to work with the State and County DOT to obtain waivers so that additional signs can be posted on SR 674 at or near other entrances to Sun City Center residential areas.

Subsequently, Kings Point has also been designated as a Senior Safety Zone.

Following is a summary of key points.

1. A sexual predator cannot establish a permanent residence or temporary residence within 1,000 feet of a Senior Safety Zone. This is measured from the outer property line of a sexual predator's residence to outer property line of the Senior Safety Zone.
  - a) Permanent Residence – where sexual predator abides, lodges, or resides and stays or intends to stay for more than 5 consecutive days.
  - b) Temporary Residence – a place where sexual predator abides, lodges, or resides for more than 5 days in the aggregate during any calendar year and is not their permanent residence.

2. Existing sexual predators that are registered in accordance with Florida Statutes are grandfathered in and can remain in their current residence, but no new sexual predators are allowed to establish a residence in Sun City Center after March 31, 2008.
3. It is unlawful for a sexual predator to reside in a Long Term Care Facility or Nursing Home unless the sexual predator status is disclosed to the facility. The facility must impose stricter supervision requirements on each sexual predator in the residence.
4. A sexual predator is a person that has been found by a court to be a sexual predator in a written court finding.
5. A sex offender is a person that has been convicted of any sex offence for which the offender was released on or after 10/1/97.
6. Property owners should make a diligent effort to check the Florida Department of Law Enforcement website to determine if a person is a sexual predator prior to renting/leasing property to the individual.
7. Nursing home and long term care facility operators should make a diligent effort to check the Florida Department of Law Enforcement website to determine if a person is a sexual predator prior to admitting the individual.