

## DISTRICT 7770 CHILD PROTECTION PROCESS

Rotary International is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all participants in Rotary activities. It is the duty of all Rotarians, Rotarians' spouses, and other volunteers to safeguard to the best of their ability the welfare of and to prevent the physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of children and young people with whom they come into contact. District 7770 requires clubs to conduct background checks of all Rotarians and prospective members in the Clubs and other volunteers. All Rotarian members have a duty to immediately report any suspected abuse to the District Governor and the District Protection Officer, who will immediately notify the appropriate Law Enforcement Authorities in cases of abuse.

Henceforth, all clubs are required to complete the following process and commit to its conclusion by signing the Memorandum of Compliance no later than July 1 of each Rotary year.

1. The president will share with the club's board of directors that this is the policy. The board must then decide:
  - a. who will be responsible for implementing this policy (recommended it be one person who can maintain confidentiality and who will be designated as club protection chair)?
  - b. should the membership-at-large be notified?
2. The club protection chair should then take the roster of all members (active, on leave, honorary, inactive) and check their names against the South Carolina Law Enforcement's Sex Offender Registry. This is required regardless of whatever background checks the member may have completed as part of other volunteer work or their profession.
  - a. Go to <http://www.sled.sc.gov/>.
  - b. Select Sex Offender Registry from the menu on the left hand side of the home page.
  - c. At that page, select the button on the top left called, "Search for Offenders in your area."
  - d. From there, you have the options of checking each individual by using their names, their emails, or their addresses.
3. If the person is not listed on the registry, your search will come up blank. You have the option of printing a page with that information although that is not required.
4. If the person is listed in the registry, then do print that page and information. Contact your club president and give him or her the information.
5. The club president will then contact the District Protection Officer, who will perform the necessary investigation and will inform the District Governor, the Assistant Governor and the Club President of the recommended next steps.

### **District Protection Chair Brett Camp**

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### **For new member candidates (to be completed from now until the policy is changed or rescinded)**

1. All potential candidates for membership must be told that part of the process includes a SLED sex offender registry check.
  - a. If the candidate does not agree, their name must be removed from consideration.
  - b. If the candidate agrees, then follow steps 2-5 above.
2. If the candidate's name does not appear on the registry, continue with the membership process.

3. If the candidate's name does appear on the registry, follow steps 4 and 5 above. The candidate must be told that their name did show up and that their membership is on hold until further investigation.

**Club Authorization and Agreement**

Every year the incoming Club President and the Club Protection Chair must sign the Memorandum of Compliance (attached) and send to their AG, no later than June 30 of that year. The AG's will in turn send their area's forms to the District Protection Officer and the District Governor.

**CHILD PROTECTION POLICY  
MEMORANDUM OF COMPLIANCE**

*We, being responsible for administering the protection policy of the **Rotary Club of***

*\_\_\_\_\_ , certify that the Club adheres to the requirements provided in the District 7770 Child Protection Policy and has completed all the required steps in the District 7770 Child Protection Process and will notify **Rotary International District 7770 Protection Officer** of any changes or revisions to Club policies and procedures related to these requirements.*

**CLUB PRESIDENT**

**Term:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CLUB PROTECTION OFFICER**

**Term:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_