

Community Notification

Sex and Kidnapping Offender Registration Public Information
Secondary Dissemination of This Information is Controlled by RCW 4.24.550
Risk to re-offend: Level III - High Risk; Level II - Moderate Risk; Level I - Low Risk

Info Released by the
Cowlitz County Sheriff



Offender Information

MERRILL, PETER LEE

W M 506 175 BRO BLU Age 38

TRANSIENT ,

Address Date: 10/1/2009

Registration Information

5/14/2008 08-5724

Community Risk

Level III

02-27-98/COWLITZ COUNTY, WA
ASSAULT 2nd w/SEXUAL MOTIVATION



According to official documents on February 27, 1998 Peter Lee Merrill pled guilty in Cowlitz County Superior Court to One Count Assault 2nd Degree with Sexual Motivation. Mr. Merrill 26 yo assaulted a known adult female and threatened to rape her as he beat her. Mr. Merrill has also been convicted of Escape 1st Degree in 1986, Unlawful Imprisonment 1986 and Burglary 2nd Degree in 1994. In 1984 Mr Merrill was found guilty of Indecent Liberties with Forcible Compulsion and again in 1988 with Indecent Liberties

The Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office is releasing this information pursuant to RCW 4.24.550 and the Washington State Supreme Court decision State v. Ward, which authorizes law enforcement agencies to inform the public of a sex offender release when, at the discretion of the Agency and the Risk Assessment Committee, the information will enhance public safety and protection. The sex offender listed has served the sentence imposed by the courts and has advised the Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office of their address. This Registered Offender is not wanted at this time. This notification is not intended to increase fear; rather it is our belief that an informed public is a safer public. Law enforcement agencies have no legal authority to direct where a sex offender may or may not live. Unless court ordered restrictions exist, this offender is constitutionally free to live anywhere. Citizen abuse of this information to threaten or harass registered sex offenders will not be tolerated. Such abuse could potentially end law enforcement's ability to do community notifications. The Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office can provide useful information on personal safety. If you have information regarding current criminal activity of this or any other offender, please call our office at 360-577-3092. You can find additional information about registered sex offenders at the Sheriff's web site www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/sheriff/rso/

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR SELF-PROTECTION:

1. You and your children should be continually aware of who is around you. If they are unfamiliar to you, don't put yourself in jeopardy.
2. Be aware of where your children are. Try to establish a time share child watching effort for children playing in the neighborhood.
3. Establish neighborhood safe havens for children as well as adults.
4. Urge your children to play in the area of other children, and caution them to not go anywhere with strangers.
5. Plan methods of escape, routes of escape and methods of self protection

More: www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/sheriff/rso/