PREMISE ALERT SYSTEM

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the Premise Alert System?
The Premise Alert System provides families with a uniform method to alert first responders about special needs individuals. It also provides first responders with advance knowledge, allowing for quick and educated responses during crises, evacuations, and disasters. For more information please visit www.papremisealert.com.

What is the Premise Alert Request Form?
The Emergency Dispatch Centers (911) use these forms to gather information about residents who have special needs. This information is helpful for emergency responders to know when responding to a home.

Who is eligible to complete the Request Form?
The form is provided free of charge to any county resident who may require additional assistance due to special needs during a police, fire, or medical emergency may complete these forms. In the event that the person with special needs is unable to submit the information on their own, a person who authorized to act on their behalf may do so (parent, guardian, power of attorney, etc.).
        If you do not have a legal right to provide this information you should NOT fill out this form or provide this information.

If I live in an independent living facility, can I complete this form?
No. These forms are only intended for use by those who live independently, and not in a residential special needs facility such as an assisted living facility, nursing home or hospital.

What type of special needs should be submitted on the Premise Alert Request Form?
Any physical, mental health or intellectual disability that would keep an individual from leaving the home quickly if told to do so, or caused to do so, should be submitted. This can include individuals with autism, those who are deaf and/or blind, and those who have intellectual disabilities, as well as persons with mental health or physical challenges.

Is participation required?
No, your submission of these forms is VOLUNTARY. You do not have to provide any information you do not want First Responders to know or use.

How do I use the form?
Fill out the form with as much information as you would want put into the 911 database, sign it, and then take a copy to your local police department. They will review it and send a copy to the County 911 center. The information will be put into the system for future use.

How will the information be used?
The information you provide will appear before the emergency dispatcher when an emergency call is made from your home. This will allow dispatchers to alert emergency responders when they are dispatched that there may be a unique, potentially dangerous or, other situation in your home involving a person with special needs. For instance, if you have a loved one residing with you who wanders away from your residence, often called "runners", indicate this on the form. Include information such as where the runner often goes; if the runner has a tracking device or cell phone; or if the runner is afraid of dogs, etc. You may also indicate that your loved one has an oxygen tank; that your loved one has a mental disability that would cause him/her not to respond to commands; or that special locks have been installed to help prevent running and the locks may slow first responders form gaining immediate access to your home.

Will my information be kept confidential?
The information you provide will be shared with local, county, state, and federal agencies for the purpose of emergency planning or emergency response. Every effort will be made to respect privacy and confidentiality, while at the same time providing for the needs of the people involved.

How often do I need to fill out a Premise Alert Request Form?
This form is good for one (1) year. It is recommended that these forms be updated annually to ensure that the information is current and accurate. If you move or need to make changes in the information just fill out another form and submit it.