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### **Burleson PD launches Guardian Program video**

The goal of Burleson Police Department's Guardian Program is to give residents with special needs family members peace of mind during times of crisis.

"If officers arrive on scene and the individual has difficulty communicating they can become quite frightened," said David Wardlaw, community resource officer. "Our number one goal is the safety of these individuals and we want to reunite them as quickly as we can with their family."

The Guardian Program is a voluntary, and free, registry for those who may be unable to communicate basic personal information due to a diagnosed cognitive disorder, or are prone to wander away or run away from guardians, home, or school due to a diagnosed medical disorder. Special needs include Autism, Alzheimer's, dementia, or some other mental/intellectual disability.

"We wanted to create a video that would give the audience an insight into what an Alzheimer's incident might look like," said Wardlaw. "Hopefully this education will encourage people to enroll their loved one in our program." [Watch the video.](#)

Parents/guardians of a special needs child or adult voluntarily submit a completed application and photo with all required medical information at registration. [Learn more.](#)

Eligibility for the Burleson Police Department's Guardian Program is based on the following:

- Participant or guardian lives within the city limits of Burleson
- Participant attends school within the Burleson Police Department jurisdiction

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