

Northern New Jersey

NOVEMBER 6-9, 2013

Frequently Asked Questions: Fugitive Safe Surrender-North Jersey

November 6th – 9th, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Evangelismos Greek Orthodox Church 661 Montgomery Street, Jersey City, NJ 07036 (A secular surrender site can be made available)

Info Line (for members of the public): 855-FSS-NJ12 Website: www.FSSNJ.com

> Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/fssnj Twitter: http://www.twitter.com/fssnj1 E-mail: fssnj@lps.state.nj.us

1. Can I turn myself in at the Fugitive Safe Surrender site even if my warrant is NOT from the three participating counties of Hudson, Bergen, or Passaic?

Yes. This *Fugitive Safe Surrender* initiative benefits people with warrants issued by any state or local law enforcement agency in New Jersey. If you are wanted by law enforcement in any New Jersey county, you will be welcomed at this Fugitive Safe Surrender site.

2. Will there be attorneys on-site to assist me when I surrender?

Yes. In fact, the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender is an active partner in *Fugitive Safe Surrender*. Public defense attorneys will be available to provide legal assistance in appropriate cases.

3. Will I go to jail if I turn myself in at Fugitive Safe Surrender?

Everyone's case is different. However, more than 99 percent of those who surrendered during New Jersey's previous *Fugitive Safe Surrender* events did NOT go to jail, and were released directly from the *Fugitive Safe Surrender* location within hours of turning themselves in.

Less than one percent of those who participated in New Jersey's previous Fugitive Safe Surrender events were taken into custody. This is because most persons who surrender during *Fugitive Safe Surrender* are wanted for <u>non-violent offenses</u> and have <u>no history of violence</u>.

4. What if I am not a U.S. citizen or legal resident?

Fugitive Safe Surrender is open <u>ONLY</u> to individuals who are <u>U.S. citizens or legal residents</u>. If you are not a U.S. citizen or legal resident you are NOT eligible for this program.

5. I don't have a driver's license. What sort of ID do I need to bring?

You can bring any form of ID that you have – Social Security card, birth certificate, Medicare/Medicaid card, etc. If you do not have any ID you may still turn yourself in during *Fugitive Safe Surrender*.

6. Do I need to arrive at 9 a.m. or can I come at any time during the day?

Fugitive Safe Surrender-North Jersey will accept surrenders <u>between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.</u> on <u>November 6, 7, 8,</u> and 9, 2013 at <u>Evangelismos Greek Orthodox Church, 661 Montgomery Street, Jersey City, NJ</u> 07036.

You are welcome during those hours. The doors will open at 9 a.m, and close <u>promptly</u> at 4 p.m. on those four days. To reduce the amount of time you will have to wait to resolve your matters, you are encouraged to come early during the first three days of this event.

7. Do you provide childcare at the site?

No. Resources will <u>not</u> be present to provide childcare at Fugitive Safe Surrender-North Jersey.

8. Will I learn how to get help finding employment, housing, health care, drug rehabilitation or other social services at *Fugitive Safe Surrender*?

Yes. Representatives of several social service agencies will be present to offer information on local services including employment, health care, housing, drug rehabilitation, and other social services.

9. Can I still turn myself in if I am wanted on a violent charge?

All fugitives are welcome to surrender at *Fugitive Safe Surrender*, and some people with warrants for violent crimes – or previous convictions for violent crimes – surrender as well. However, individuals with warrants for violent offenses or who have a criminal history of violence are more likely to be taken into custody.

10. Is Fugitive Safe Surrender an amnesty program?

Fugitive Safe Surrender is NOT an amnesty program. *Fugitive Safe Surrender* assists individuals who are willing to take responsibility for their actions and reenter the mainstream of their communities. It a first step toward a second chance, in the form of favorable consideration from the court. This typically results in probation or reduced fines.

The handling of criminal charges is decided by the judge, but favorable consideration is typically given in the spirit of the program.

11. Is there a religious requirement to participate in Fugitive Safe Surrender?

There is no religious requirement to participate. *Fugitive Safe Surrender* provides fugitives with the opportunity to surrender to authorities in a faith-based or other neutral setting. If you wish to participate in *Fugitive Safe Surrender* but do not want to surrender in a faith-based setting, alternative arrangements can be made. You may call *855-FSS-NJ12* to discuss how this can be done.

12. How can I learn more?

Members of the public can learn more about *Fugitive Safe Surrender-North Jersey* by contacting the New Jersey Attorney General's Office: **855-FSS-NJ12** (855-377-6512), or <u>fssnj@lps.state.nj.us</u>.

Website: www.FSSNJ.com. Facebook: facebook.com/fssnj. Twitter: twitter.com/fssnj1.

Members of the news media can call the Attorney General's Office of Communications, 609-292-4791.

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