The decal's purpose is to inform law enforcement that a person with special needs or a condition that may require them to communicate differently may be present in a vehicle or home. The initiative means a step forward and a big peace of mind for families who have children with autism.

"I believe the decals will increase awareness and improve the way Law Enforcement interacts with the Autism community. I sincerely believe that it will add a level of safety for so many families. "

- Darryl Roberts

To register for Autism Decals, contact:

Darryl.Roberts@phila.gov Asst. Director of Community Outreach 215-683-4827

Office of the Sheriff City and County of Philadelphia 100 S. Broad Street - 5th Floor 215-686-3530 Rochelle Bilal, Sheriff



www.phillysheriff.com



"The Philadelphia Sheriff's Office is increasing programs and offerings to provide better service residents living with Autism in their families. This is an important part of our approach, along with our partners, that will be rolled out over the next few months."

- Sheriff Rochelle Bilal



Philadelphia Sheriff's Office Autism Awareness Decal Initiative



The goal is to assist deputies/officers better understand as they approach the vehicle in an emergency, providing more information to make better decisions on how to approach, to underscore being patient, calm, and understanding in cases involving an individual who is on the autism spectrum to improve outcomes.



*patch designed for our deputies



Autism Decal Initiative

The mission of the PSO Autism Decal Initiative is to alert Emergency Responders that there is a person with autism in the home or vehicle.

The decals enable Philadelphia City & County Sheriff's deputies and other law enforcement agencies to draw on their autism training and understand that there is a person in the home or car that may not speak, respond to or comply with verbal commands, may hide, or wander off, or may have no awareness of danger. On April 25, 2023, Sheriff Rochelle Bilal and Darryl Roberts with Community Outreach, unveiled the City of Philadelphia's first law enforcement decal to identify persons with Autism in a home or vehicle.



The no-cost Autism decal created and designed by Darryl Roberts, will be distributed to those who register and qualify to receive them.



Checkout our website to view media coverage of the press conference.