

**Volunteers and Background Checks: [Bulletin #1](#)**

Since April 2003, the BSA has conducted a criminal background check on all new adult volunteers. There are BSA adult volunteers who have been consistently registered since April 2003 in the same position. These dedicated volunteers have not had a criminal background check (CBC) conducted by the BSA. To continue to provide a safe environment for youth participating in the Scouting program, the National Council will address this situation by providing a vehicle for having a CBC conducted on those volunteers.

Volunteers who have not had a CBC conducted will receive a letter from our Chief Scout Executive, Bob Mazzuca. Exploring volunteers will receive a letter from the director of Learning for Life, John Anthony. The letter will recognize them as valued volunteers and explain the situation with criminal background checks and our continued efforts in youth protection. Those letters are scheduled to be mailed by June 2, 2008. The letter will direct volunteers to a website specifically established to give consent for the CBC which will be active from June 1 until August 1, 2008. ***The letter will also direct the volunteers to contact their council service center if they do not have Internet access or require assistance.***

Once the volunteer has accessed the website, they will be asked to review a disclosure and authorization statement which they must click "Agree" to proceed. Those who choose "Do Not Agree" or "Disagree" will have their membership revoked immediately. A new adult application (or Exploring adult roster form) will be required to renew their membership status. If they complete a new application, they will be submitted for a CBC at that time.

Volunteers who receive a letter and do not complete the website process by August 1, 2008, will not be able to renew their registration at recharter time without completing a new BSA application. "This "natural expiration" of their registration will mean that the recharter paperwork or Internet Rechartering roster printed after August 2, 2008 will not display that volunteer's name.