

1. Is the BSA doing credit checks on volunteers?

No. The BSA will only use these signed authorization forms for approval to obtain a criminal background check. State and federal laws regulating background checks and consumer credit checks require that both items be mentioned on the form. Again, the BSA is only using this form for authorization to obtain a criminal background check.

2. Why is this being done now?

Starting in 2020, rechecks will be performed every five years. Unfortunately, changes in the law over the last five years prevent us from using existing authorizations from older applications. As such, new disclosures had to be sent and new signed authorization forms obtained. Rechartering provides the best window to collect and verify they have been received before the council processes the recharter application.

3. What about volunteers that are not registered with units?

All currently registered adults and employees will be rechecked. This includes merit badge counselors and leaders registered in district and council level positions. District and council volunteers should submit their authorization forms to the council service center.

4. What about those who did not get the forms by e-mail?

Yes, ALL registered leaders are required to sign and return the new Authorization Disclosure even if they did not receive the email. If an email was not received it does not mean they are exempt, it simply means we do not have an email address on file, the email address we have on file is incorrect or the email went to their spam folder.

5. What about those with multiple registrations?

Only one authorization form per person needs to be collected and retained by the council. It is not necessary that volunteer leaders submit multiple authorization forms for each position.

6. What happens if a unit leader does not provide an authorization?

Leaders who do not provide a new signed authorization form will not be able to renew their registration for 2020 - they will be removed from the unit roster.

7. Can the council accept a faxed copy or scanned copy sent via email of the signed authorization?

Yes, so long as it is legible and is sent by the individual who signed it.

8. Can the council accept an electronic signature?

E-mail confirmations, permissions or typed names on the form are not acceptable substitutes for wet signatures.

9. What about unit renewals that will not recharter until after January 1?

For unit renewals with a renewal date after January 1, authorization forms still must be collected as soon as possible. All new authorization forms should be received by December 31, 2019.

Due to the multitude of disclosures that will be coming in, the council recommends forms be collected at the unit level by a designated unit representative and submitted to the council office. Please collect your adult leaders forms and submit them with your recharter paperwork by December 31, 2019.