

Sex Offender Registration and Community Notification (Megan's Law) Information Sheet

What is Sex Offender Registration?

The Sex Offender Registration Act is a law that requires sex offenders to register their address and other personal information with law enforcement officials upon their return to the community. This means that all people on the registry have plead or been found guilty to one of the crimes listed below. They will register after their release from incarceration, or while they are serving time on parole or probation. This law only applies to people who meet these requirements after January 1, 1997. Sex offenders are required to keep their registry information current with law enforcement officials for 10 years.

What Crimes Require a Person to Register?

- Non-parental Kidnapping of a Minor
- False Imprisonment of a Minor
- Sexual Assault
- Sexual Assault of a Child
- Sexual Assault of a Vulnerable Adult
- Incest of a Minor
- Pandering of a Minor
- Visual Depiction of Sexually Explicit Conduct of a Child
- Conspiracy or an attempt to Commit the Above Crimes

What Community Notification Is

Community notification is a process that allows the general public to know where a convicted sex offender resides after their release from jail or prison. Before sex offenders are released from incarceration or let out on parole or probation, they are evaluated to assess the chance that they will re-offend. The public is only notified of the presence of the offenders who pose the highest risk. Lower risk offenders will only be known to law enforcement officials and possibly to organizations that are identified as being a likely place for a sex offender to look for potential victims, such as a daycare or school, that are located near to their residence.

What Community Notification Is NOT

Community Notification DOES NOT mean that all sex offenders are identified for the public. **Most sex offenders are never identified** by the criminal justice system and therefore will not ever be registered as a sex offender. It is important for people to understand that the best way to keep themselves and their families safe is to learn the facts about sexual violence and learn about common behaviors of sex offenders.

Where can I get more information or see the high-risk offenders?

Visit the Sex Offender Registry on the Nebraska State Patrol website at www.nsp.state.ne.us.

Remember, most offenders are not identified by this system. Sex offenders are most often known and trusted by their victims or the victim's family. To learn more about sexual assault call the local domestic violence/sexual assault crisis center nearest to you at (866) 95-DOVES (36837).