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July 17–18, 2019 | Chicago

2019 NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

on Sex Offender Management and Accountability

Registrar Safety and Rural Registration

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Building Solutions | Supporting Communities | Advancing Justice

Objectives

- Identify risks and concerns in offender behavior
- Demonstrate registrar safety
- Apply field verification safety



A low-angle, upward-looking perspective of several modern skyscrapers with glass facades, reaching towards a clear blue sky. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "Risks and Concerns" is centered in white.

Risks and Concerns

Sexual Characteristics

- Tendencies
- Target of choice
- Victim access
- Related/unrelated victims
- Undetected deviant sexual behaviors



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Aggression And Violence

- History of violence
- Domestic violence
- Controlling nature
- Violent opinions
- Access to weapons



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Mental Health And Substance Abuse Conditions

- Mental health disorders
- Personality disorders
- Suicidal ideation
- Substance abuse or dependency issues
- Rooted in drug culture

It is important to be able to recognize individuals in a state of crisis and how to access help for them.



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A low-angle, upward-looking perspective of several modern skyscrapers with glass facades, reaching towards a clear blue sky. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'Registrar Safety' is centered in white.

Registrar Safety

Risk Analysis and Mitigation

- Facility and property exposed to risk?
 - Uneven floors, exposed electrical wiring, poor lighting
- People exposed to risk?
 - Public, Sex offender, new employees, untrained workers
- Discuss worst-case scenarios
- Prioritize risks

Risk Analysis and Mitigation (cont.)

- Prepare observations and recommendations
- Identify protocols and practices for clients when entering building and or office
 - Client screening
 - Client attire/bags
 - Client access/entrance to office space
 - Offender Shoots Parole Officer
- Share/establish expectation with client



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Personal Safety

- Partner to observe or assist
- Keep safe distance
- Never have your back toward the person
- Have an escape plan



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Personal Safety (cont.)

- No personal identifiers
- Social media awareness
- Keep personal life private



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Security Controls and Risk Management

- Secure all weapons before entering
- Search room prior to and after an interview
- Simple desk and chairs
- No heavy, large or sharp objects
- Away from general public and noise



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Maintaining Safety During Registration

- Assemble forms for offender to complete beforehand
- Assess offender body language, attitude and safety risks
- Assess your own nonverbal actions and attitude
- Stay calm and confident
- Non-confrontational while completing forms and processing

Building Rapport With Registrant

- Practice active listening
- Help identify their network of support
- Encourage consistency and self-control
- Recognize their success
- Demonstrate empathy and concern
- Offer resources such as mental health services

Utilizing Technology

- Walkthrough metal detector
- Wand hand-held metal detector
- Security cameras

Implementation of screening devices should always be approved by administration/governing body.

A low-angle, upward-looking perspective of several modern skyscrapers with glass facades, reaching towards a clear blue sky. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'Field Verification Safety' is centered in white.

Field Verification Safety

Personal Safety in the Field

- Dress in a manner that —
 - Assists you in performing your duties
 - Helps identify your official capacity
 - Allows you ease of movement
 - Does not create additional risks or allow someone to control you (lanyard, scarf, neck tie)
 - Wear ballistic vest if available



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Personal Safety in the Field (cont.)

- Advise dispatch, supervisor or another person where you are going
 - Written itinerary in order of when you are attempting verifications
- Take a partner
 - Safety in numbers
 - Jeffery M. McCoy
- Trust your instincts for threat assessment
 - It's OK to come back later!



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Personal Safety in the Field (cont.)

- Warrant check before going to the home
 - Active warrants could cause offender to become an increased safety risk
- Know offender's work/treatment schedule
- Ideally conducted in daylight hours
- If possible, do not schedule visit ahead of time
 - Sporadic and unscheduled home visits are best



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Safely Approach the Home

- Know offender's case
- Know location of residence prior to arriving, aerial/street view google map
- Know who else lives in the home
- Park a house or two away and leave clear escape path
 - If on a dead-end road or rural setting, park tactically
- Check communication device for channel and battery level



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Safely Approach the Home (cont.)

- Call in any vehicle plates, colors and make
- Assess environment before you get out of the car
 - Come back later if environment seems high risk (lots of cars/people, etc.)
- Be alert for animals, snakes, insects
- Keep keys in your hand (non-dominant hand if carrying weapon)
- Move to side of door before you knock
 - Make sure you and your partner are not in front of windows



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Safety Inside the Home

- Body mechanics, balanced stance, supportive stance, weapon bladed away
- Never close off your escape route or box yourself in
 - Fatal funnel (doorways, stairwells, hallways)
- Always ask who else is in the residence
- Quickly scan kitchens or areas where dangerous items can be located
- Watch their hands
- While you focus on offender, have partner observe home environment



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Safety Inside the Home (cont.)

- While walking through home, have offender in front of you
 - Never turn your back on an offender or others, even when exiting the home
- Make sure home is well lit before proceeding with visit
 - Always carry a flashlight in case of low lighting or no power
- Have the offender sit if in home for extended timeframe after walkthrough
- Sit on hard areas, instead of sofas or couches
 - If soft seating area is only seating available, search area before offender sits



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Oklahoma Deputy Fatally Shoots Suspect Who Stabbed Him

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOMNaJXparE>



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A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of several tall skyscrapers, likely in a city like New York. The buildings are covered in glass and steel, and their lines converge towards the top of the frame. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "What's Wrong With This Photo?" is centered in white, bold, sans-serif font.

What's Wrong With This Photo?



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A blue-tinted photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, featuring several tall skyscrapers and a dense forest in the foreground. The word "Questions?" is overlaid in white text in the center of the image.

Questions?

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Thank you.



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