Why a State Registry for Sex Offenders?

Jacob Wetterling Act Mandates Registration, Enacted 1994
- Jacob Wetterling
- Kidnapped from his hometown at the age of 11 on October 22, 1989.
- Remains discovered 9/1/2016

Megan’s Law Mandates Community Notification. Enacted 1996
- Megan Kanka
- Kidnapped, raped, and murdered by a repeat violent sexual offender who had moved into her New Jersey neighborhood.

Adam Walsh Act July 25, 2006
- Adam John Walsh
- He was abducted from a Sears department store at the Hollywood Mall in Hollywood, Florida on July 27, 1981, and later found murdered.

JUNE 01, 1997
Law Passed Requiring Registration
- WI Statutes 301.45 & 301.46
- Anyone:
  - Convicted or adjudicated
  - On supervision
  - Incarcerated

Intent of Law
- Balance
  - community protection
  - public’s need to be informed
- Reduce Anonymity
- TOOL
  - Law enforcement
  - Victims
  - Public

Vigilantism is the Opposite Intent
- It may drive the offender underground
- It can lead to arrest and prosecution
- Registrants have 10 days to report changes & mistakes are made
- It could lead to loss of the law and become a huge step backward for all of us
The Numbers
As of 8/15/19:

- Incarcerated: 6264
- Non-incarcerated: 19,312
- TOTAL: 25,576

Registrants by County
- Ashland: 75
- Brown: 663
- Dane: 1030
- La Crosse: 265
- Marathon: 476
- Milwaukee: 2836
- Racine: 578

No Typical Sex Offender
- Age
- Gender
- Race
- Profession
- Relationship to victim

Sex Offender Conditions Active vs. Inactive
- Active Supervision Registrants May have Conditions:
  - Limiting contact with children
  - Restrictions on residences
  - Restrictions on using internet/social media
- Registrants who have Completed Probation or Parole Supervision:
  - Are only required to report their information to the WI Sex Offender Registry

Who is Required to Register?
- Convicted, adjudicated, committed, on supervision, or incarcerated on or after December 25, 1993

Non-Compliance
- Failure to report changes, provide false information, photo updates
- Class H Felony (up to 6 years and/or up to $10,000 fine)

Community Notification 301.46
- Law Enforcement can notify on any Sex Offender Registrant
- Active notification does NOT occur for most Sex Offender Registrants

Levels of Notification (Adult or Juvenile)
- Level 1: Law Enforcement Only
  - Release of info may identify the victim
- Level 2: Targeted
  - Law enforcement, day cares, senior centers, victim
- Level 3: Widespread
  - Flyers, newspapers, TV, community meetings
GPS
- Active GPS tracking incorporating multiple location technologies (Autonomous GPS, Assisted GPS, and AFLT) in one piece of equipment
- RF link via an in-home beacon
- Data is reported to central monitoring computer with flexible reporting rates from 1 minute to 24 hours
- Multiple forms of tamper technology including fiber optic strap, proximity tamper, motion detection, and case tamper
- Communication with client through pre-defined, recorded voice messages

Penalties for Tampering
- Wisconsin § 946.465
  - Class I Felony
  - Up to $10,000 fine and/or incarcerated up to 3.5 years or both

State Statutes Affecting Sex Offender Registrants
- 301.47 – Prohibits Name Change
- 948.13 – Child Sex Offenders are prohibited from engaging or participating in occupation where they work/interact/volunteering primarily with children under the age of 16.
- 948.14 – May not photograph/film/videotape anyone under the age of 17 without written consent of the parents.
- 301.45(2)(a)6m – Sex Offenders must report Internet Identifiers:
  - Email addresses
  - Internet address for websites created
  - Social Media accounts created
- Law Enforcement can notify on any Sex Offender Registrant
  - Active notification does NOT occur for most Sex Offender Registrants
- Note: Law Enforcement can notify on any Sex Offender Registrant
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Residency Restrictions

Noble Intentions
- Protect children
- Keep sex offenders OUT
- Individual Community Decision
- EBP?

INFORMATION 24/7/365
- WI Sex Offender Registry/Public Website
  - doc.wi.gov
- Victim Information
  - notis.doc.state.wi.us
  - vinelink.org
Search Parameters

- Address
- Zip Code
- Name
- Radius 1, 2 or 3 miles
- Email Notifications

Geographical Search

- Click on the Arrow to Find Specific Information on the Registrant