

WI Department of Corrections Sex Offender Registry

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
- November 14, 1974 – July 27, 1981
- 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
- Active notification does NOT occur for most Sex Offender Registrants

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