

The mission of the **Florida Action Committee (FAC)** is to educate the media, public, and legislators with facts versus myths about persons required to register as sexual offenders. FAC works to reform the registry laws in Florida.

If you are a registrant or have a loved one on the registry, we hope to become a source of information and support for you.

FAC is a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit organization. FAC is not a law firm, we are neither licensed nor qualified to provide legal advice.



NEED MORE HELP? CONTACT US

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(833) 2-REPEAL

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RESOURCES FOR PERSONS REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS SEX OFFENDERS

REGISTRATION LAWS IN FLORIDA

Offenders, Florida Statute §943.0435 (<u>f-a-c.org/FLOffenderLaw</u>) Predators, Florida Statute §775.21 (<u>f-a-c.org/FLPredLaw</u>)

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES FOR COUNTIES AND CITIES

Visit <u>f-a-c.org/FLLocalLaw</u> or call the local clerk of court's office

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT (FDLE)

The FDLE administers the Florida registry. If you have a question:

Phone: (888) 357-7332 (M-F 8:00am - 5:00pm, EST)

Email: sexpred@fdle.state.fl.us

REGISTRATION LOCATIONS

(To comply with required registration)
Visit f-a-c.org/RegLoc or call your local sheriff's office

DEPT. OF HWY. SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES LOCATIONS

(To obtain a compliant driver's license or identification card) Visit f-a-c.org/DMVLoc or call (850) 617-3000

FLORIDA STATE PROBATION INFORMATION

Florida Department of Corrections

Phone: (850) 717-3444

Email: co-supervision@fdc.myflorida.com

U.S. FEDERAL PROBATION INFORMATION

United States Probation Office Northern District: (850) 470-3065 Middle District: (813) 301-5600 Southern District: (305) 523-5300



FIND A FLORIDA CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYER

Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Inc.

Phone: (850) 385-5080

We also have attorney referrals at f-a-c.org/LawyerRefs

CRISIS CENTERS AND HOTLINES

Visit f-a-c.org/CrisisHelp OR **Dial 211**

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REGISTRATION REMINDERS

Get reminded to register during your months via SMS text messages. Just text "START" to 727-233-4785 to begin.

No warranty or liability implied. It is always YOUR responsibility to register. Intended as a backup reminder. Service provided free as a courtesy. Standard text message rates may apply.



FAC COMMUNITY CALLS

General Membership Calls held 1st Thursday of the month at 8 PM **New Member Orientation** held 2nd Thursday of the month at 8 PM **Dial** (319) 527-3487

A FEW COMMON MYTHS ABOUT SEX OFFENSES, THE REGISTRY, AND FORMER OFFENDERS

Myth "Stranger Danger"

Most sexual offenses are committed by someone known to the victim. The U.S. Department of Justice reports that 93 percent of victims under the age of 17, and 73 percent of victims age 18 and older, were assaulted by someone they knew.¹

Myth Sex Offenders have "frightening and high" rates of recidivism.

Recidivism rates for sex offenders are lower than for the general section.

Recidivism rates for sex offenders are lower than for the general criminal population.² The actual re-offense rates for sexual offenders is in the single digits and 93% of sex offenses are committed by someone with no prior criminal history.

Myth Predators are lurking in parks and playgrounds. Keeping Sex Offenders away from these places through residency restriction is effective.

Most sexual assaults happen in private spaces like a residence or home. There is no evidence that residency restrictions prevent sexual offenses. To the contrary, these factors can hinder effective treatment and may interfere with the overall goal of reducing recidivism and re-victimization.³

Myth Sex Offender Registries are effective.

The majority of research results do not find a statistically significant shift in sexual offense trends following the implementation of sex offender registration and notification (SORN) regimes.⁴ Registries do just the opposite. Negative effects of collateral consequences on offenders are expected to contribute to known risk factors, and to offenders failing to register, and to the related potential for reoffending.⁵

Myth There are 73,000 Sex Offenders in Florida

More than <u>half</u> the people on Florida's Sex Offender Registry are not in Florida.⁶ Florida keeps anyone who has ever registered in Florida on its registry for life. Even if they just visited our state.

Fact

Fact

¹ (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2000)

² (Center for Sex Offender Management, Office of Justice Programs)

³ https://www.csom.org/pubs/ATSA%20Residence%20Restrictions.pdf

⁴ Prescott, J.J.; Rockoff, Jonah E. (February 2011). "Do Sex Offender Registration and Notification Laws Affect Criminal Behavior?". Journal of Law and Economics. 54 (1): 161–206.

⁵ Levenson, Jill; Letourneau, Elizabeth; Armstrong, Kevin; Zgoba, Kristen Marie (June 2010). "Failure to Register as a Sex Offender: Is it Associated with Recidivism?". Justice Quarterly. 27 (3): 305–331.

⁶ Florida Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) December 2018