



Florida Department of  
Law Enforcement

Richard L. Swearingen  
*Commissioner*

**Criminal Investigations and Forensic Science Services  
Enforcement and Investigative Support**

Post Office Box 1489  
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1489  
1-888-357-7332  
www.fdle.state.fl.us

Ron DeSantis, *Governor*  
Ashley Moody, *Attorney General*  
Jimmy Patronis, *Chief Financial Officer*  
Nikki Fried, *Commissioner of Agriculture*

July 7, 2020

## SECOND DUPLICATE RESPONSE TO "Third Request 7/27/20"

Gail Colletta  
Florida Action Committee  
6615 W Boynton Beach Blvd #414  
Boynton Beach, FL 33437

Dear Ms. Colletta:

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), Missing Persons & Offender Registration, has received your correspondence regarding sexual offender and sexual predator registration laws.

If a person is a sexual offender or predator relocating or visiting from another state and he or she obtains or maintains a permanent, temporary, or transient residence in Florida (please see below for the statutory definition of each), he or she must register in person with the sheriff's office in the county in which he or she is located within forty-eight hours of obtaining or maintaining such a residence. An offender or predator with a temporary address in Florida who is required to register is subject to all Florida registration laws and is subject to posting on the Florida Sexual Offender/Predator Public Registry website. This information is maintained in fulfillment of both Florida and federal laws and serves to assist law enforcement and provide important safety information to all citizens residing in Florida or otherwise.

Florida Statute 775.21 defines a "permanent residence" as a place where the person abides, lodges, or resides for three or more consecutive days, and "temporary residence" as a place where the person abides, lodges, or resides, including, but not limited to, vacation, business, or personal travel destinations in or out of this state, for a period of three or more days in the aggregate during any calendar year and which is not the person's permanent address or, for a person whose permanent residence is not in this state, a place where the person is employed, practices a vocation, or is enrolled as a student for any period of time in this state. "Transient residence" means a county where a person lives, remains, or is located for a period of three or more days in the aggregate during a calendar year and which is not the person's permanent or temporary address. The term includes, but is not limited to, a place where the person sleeps or seeks shelter and a location that has no specific street address.

There is no state-level registration law that prevents a "released" sexual offender or predator (i.e. an offender or predator no longer serving any type of sanction under the Florida Department of Corrections) from being or residing near a school, bus stop, playground, day care, etc. Florida Statute 775.215, entitled, "Residency restriction for persons convicted of certain sex offenses," directs, in part, that certain individuals convicted of certain sexual crimes cannot reside within 1,000 feet of any school, day care center, park, or playground. For additional details, please see Florida Statute 775.215.



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One should contact the local sheriff's office of jurisdiction where he or she plans on visiting or residing to obtain any information regarding guidelines at those levels that may restrict where he or she can lodge or reside and for information regarding the registration process for that county. For a list of registration offices and their contact information, you may visit <https://offender.fdle.state.fl.us/offender/sops/important.jsf> and click "View ReRegistration Days, Times and Locations by County."

You will also find additional helpful information on our website. For answers to frequently asked questions and a summary of Florida's registration laws, you may visit <https://offender.fdle.state.fl.us/>. Registrants are encouraged to discuss any questions with an attorney or legal representation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Coffee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Coffee, Planning and Policy Administrator  
Missing Persons & Offender Registration

MCC/hf