

Reducing Crime

Good morning/afternoon. I'm (your name), a Florida resident.

The sex offender registry was created in 1994 to track people accused of the rape and murder of young children. Since then, Florida has generated scores of new sex offense laws. Now, if you help a crying child, anyone can accuse you of harboring sexual intent.

Surprising to most, recidivism of a sex offense is 1% according to Florida Department of Corrections data analysis (2020-2023) and supported by academic evidence-based research.

Yet, 11% of Floridian sex offenders are back in prison within three years - not for any act involving sex - but rather for an administrative paperwork error.

The overwhelming number of requirements that registrants must comply with per day, or face prison, are not only inconsistent from jurisdiction to jurisdiction but increase every year. Confusing both law enforcement and registrants.

Within 48 hours of a change from new job to your mom's new car tag, the change must be reported or it's prison for 5 years or much longer. What do you do when the registry office is open only Tuesday thru Thursday and in-person updates necessary?

While going to prison for 5 years or longer for paperwork error sounds like an exaggeration, it isn't.

An older gentleman, whose sex offense resulted in 2 years in prison in the 1990's, just received 10 years in prison for failure to report an address change within 48 hours. With prison came losing his job, the family income, and their house.

Sending people to prison for paperwork errors is useless and wasteful - when 95% of sexual offenses are committed by someone who isn't even on the registry.

What can be done?

- (1) Change the penalties for registry errors from felonies to misdemeanors.
- (2) Provide registrants an opportunity to make corrections to errors and omissions in their registry information before resorting to criminal prosecution.

Thank you.

Reducing Crime 90 seconds

I'm (your name), a Florida resident.

Florida has generated scores of new sex offense laws. Now, if you help a crying child, anyone can accuse you of harboring sexual intent.

Surprising to most, recidivism of a sex offense is 1% according to Florida Department of Corrections data.

Yet, 11% of Floridian sex offenders are back in prison within three years - not for any act involving sex - but rather for an administrative paperwork error.

The overwhelming number of requirements that registrants must comply with per day, or face prison, are not only inconsistent from jurisdiction to jurisdiction but increase every year. Confusing both law enforcement and registrants.

While going to prison for 5 years or much longer for paperwork error sounds like an exaggeration, it isn't.

An older gentleman, whose sex offense resulted in 2 years in prison in the 1990's, just received 10 years in prison for failure to report an address change within 48 hours. With prison came losing his job, the family income, and their house.

Sending people to prison for paperwork errors is useless and wasteful - when 95% of sexual offenses are committed by someone who isn't even on the registry.

What can be done?

- (1) Change the penalties for registry errors from felonies to misdemeanors.
- (2) Provide registrants an opportunity to make corrections to errors in their registry information before resorting to criminal prosecution.

Thank you.

Reducing Crime 1 minute

I'm (your name) and I'm asking you to:

- (1) Change the penalties for sex offender registry errors from felonies to misdemeanors.
- (2) Provide registrants an opportunity to make corrections to errors in their registry information.

Recidivism of a sex offense is 1% according to Florida Department of Corrections data.

Yet, 11% of Florida sex offenders are back in prison within three years for an administrative paperwork error.

The immense number of requirements that registrants must comply with per day, or face prison, are not only inconsistent from jurisdiction to jurisdiction but increase every year. Confusing both law enforcement and registrants.

One real-life outcome:

An older gentleman, whose sex offense resulted in 2 years in prison in the 1990's, just received 10 years in prison for failure to report an address change within 48 hours. With prison came losing his job and the family's home.

Sending people to prison for paperwork errors is useless and wasteful - when 95% of sexual offenses are committed by someone who isn't on the registry.