

State Takes a Lead Role in Public Safety

The State of Indiana is driving a technology-based solution to increase public safety.

The re-vamp of the *Sheriffs' Sex Offender Registry* is the result of a cooperative partnership between the following:

- Governor Mitch Daniels
- Indiana Sheriffs' Association
- Attorney General Steve Carter
- Indiana Criminal Justice Institute
- Indiana State Police
- Indiana Department of Correction

Why this is important –

Making sure that
the citizens of
Indiana
are protected.

Working Together...



Indiana Sheriffs' Sex Offender Registry

Mission:

Committed
to Public Safety

What's driving this effort?

Because of the evolving laws and the role agencies play in managing sex offender data, it has become important to create and manage centralized information.

1. Enhancing Public Safety

- The new *Registry* will be built to comply with state and federal requirements;
- Will have built-in checks to improve data quality and integrity to make sure Indiana's data is always maintained at the highest quality;
- Will provide complete and accurate information to the public from a single website;
- Will provide informational resources to both public safety officials and the general public that will provide answers to commonly asked questions about sex offender registration and community notification.

2. Create Efficiencies (Single point of entry)

- The new registry will have a single point of entry and will eliminate the multiple points of entry required today.
- By streamlining data collection, we can present consistent information to the public.

3. New Functionality

- The system will present offender data both textually and geographically. An offender mapping tool and other enhanced functionality will be provided in the new sheriff sex offender registry.
- Users will be able to map sex offender location by schools, daycares and parks.

4. Integration with the National Sex Offender Public Registry

- The new site will allow the State to integrate with the National Sex Offender Public Registry (NSOPR) –sponsored by the Department of Justice. The NSOPR initiative provides immediate access to the public for sex offender registration and community notification data from around the country. www.nsopr.org

History

Since its inception, Zachary's Law (IC 5-2-12) has involved many different agencies in the process of local sex offender registration and the submission of information about sex offenders for the purpose of community notification.

The distribution of registration-related responsibilities was initially necessary due to technology limitations, the continued dispersion of duties today has resulted in a fragmented, error-prone process which not only charges taxpayers for redundant services, but also fails to enhance public safety by failing to ensure that offenders who are required to register are, in fact, registered.

Today

Under Indiana's current approach, sex offender data is collected through three data systems at the local and state level:

- *Sheriffs' Sex Offender Registry* maintained by sheriffs'
- Indiana Data and Communication System (IDACS) maintained by the Indiana State Police
- Indiana Sex and Violent Offender Directory maintained by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute.

The *Registry* and the *Directory* are both available to the public on the Internet and each contain information about Indiana sex offenders, but often the information collected and presented by each source is different and incomplete.

Future:

Improved Registry

The new *Sheriffs' Sex Offender Registry* will be web-based. It will contain one point of entry eliminating duplication. It will provide the public with a single place to access accurate information on sex offenders. The new site will allow the State to integrate with the National Sex Offender Public Registry.

Sheriffs will continue to lead these efforts for each of their counties.

The new solution will be launched in January 2006.

Website: www.indianasheriffs.org