

CONNECTICUT SEX-OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

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NUMBER OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

3,082 as of March 26, 2003.

1. WHO IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER?

Any person convicted of or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of:

- (1) a sexually violent offense;
- (2) a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor; or
- (3) a nonviolent sexual offense,

on or after October 1, 1998, is required to register.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-251(a); § 54-252(a); § 54-253(a))

A person convicted of or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of committing a felony for a sexual purpose may be required to register, if the conviction or finding was made on or after October 1, 1998.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-254(a))

2. WHAT DOES “SEXUALLY VIOLENT OFFENSE” MEAN?

“Sexually violent offense” means:

- (1) compelling another person to:
 - (a) engage in sexual intercourse by:
 - (i) the use of force against such other person or a third person; or
 - (ii) the threat of use of force against such other person or against a third person which reasonably causes such person to fear physical injury to him- or herself or a third person; or
 - (b) sexual contact by:
 - (i) the use of force against such other person or a third person; or
 - (ii) the threat of use of force against such other person or against a third person, which reasonably causes such other person to fear physical injury to him- or herself or a third person;
- (2) engaging in sexual intercourse with another person and:
 - (a) such other person is mentally incapacitated to the extent that he or she is unable to consent to sexual intercourse;
 - (b) such other person is mentally defective to the extent that he or she is unable to consent to sexual intercourse;
 - (c) such other person is physically helpless;

- (d) such other person is in the custody of law enforcement or is detained in a hospital or other institution and the offender has supervisory or disciplinary authority over him or her;
 - (e) the offender is a psychotherapist and such other person is:
 - (i) a patient and the sexual intercourse occurs during the psychotherapy session;
 - (ii) a patient or former patient who is emotionally dependent upon the actor; or
 - (iii) a patient or former patient and the sexual intercourse occurs by means of therapeutic deception; or
 - (f) the offender accomplishes the sexual intercourse by means of false representation that the sexual intercourse is for a bona-fide medical purpose by a healthcare professional;
- (3) committing:
- (a) aggravated sexual assault in the first degree;
 - (b) sexual assault in the second degree and in the commission of such offense, the offender is aided by two or more other persons actually present;
 - (c) sexual assault in a spousal or cohabiting relationship; or
 - (d) sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm;
- (4) kidnapping in the first degree, if the offense was committed with the intent to sexually violate or abuse the victim;
- (5) kidnapping in the first degree with a firearm, if the offense was committed with the intent to sexually violate or abuse the victim;
- (6) committing any offense listed in (1) through (5) above for which a person may be criminally liable for the acts of another, conspiracy, or attempt; or
- (7) a violation of any former Connecticut statute with elements similar to those required for current statutory violations.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-250(11))

3. WHAT DOES “CRIMINAL OFFENSE AGAINST A VICTIM WHO IS A MINOR” MEAN?

“Criminal offense against a victim who is a minor” means:

- (1) having contact with the intimate parts of a minor under 16 or subjecting a minor under 16 to contact with the intimate parts of such person in a sexual and indecent manner likely to impair the health or morals of such minor;
- (2) engaging in sexual intercourse with another person and such other person is under 13 and the offender is more than two years older than the victim;
- (3) engaging in sexual intercourse with another person and:
 - (a) such other person is 13 or older but under 16 and the offender is more than two years older than the victim;
 - (b) such other person is under 18 years and the offender is the victim’s guardian or otherwise responsible for the general supervision of his or her welfare; or
 - (c) the offender is a school employee and the victim is a student enrolled in the school at which the offender works or a school under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education that employs the offender;
- (4) engaging in sexual intercourse with another person whom the offender knows to be related to him or her within a certain degree of kindred;
- (5) advancing or profiting from prostitution of a person under 16;
- (6) advancing or profiting from prostitution of a person under 18;
- (7) employing a minor in an obscene performance;
- (8) promoting a minor in an obscene performance;
- (9) importing or possessing child pornography;

- (10) kidnapping, if the victim is under 18;
- (11) kidnapping with a firearm, if the victim is under 18;
- (12) unlawful restraint, if the victim is under 18;
- (13) public indecency, if the victim is under 18;
- (14) committing an offense listed in (1) through (13) above for which a person may be criminally liable for the acts of another, for conspiracy, or for attempt; or
- (15) violating any former Connecticut statute with elements similar to those required for current statutory violations.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-250(2))

4. WHAT DOES “NONVIOLENT SEXUAL OFFENSE” MEAN?

“Nonviolent sexual offense” means committing sexual assault in the fourth degree.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-250(5))

5. ARE JUVENILE OFFENDERS REQUIRED TO REGISTER?

Please contact the Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police Sex-Offender-Registry Unit or local law enforcement for information on juvenile offenders.

6. WHEN AND WHERE DOES AN OFFENDER REGISTER?

An offender has an obligation to register within three days of his or her release into the community. The offender must register with the Commissioner of Public Safety.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-251(a); § 54-252(a); § 54-256)

7. WHAT INFORMATION MUST AN OFFENDER PROVIDE AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION?

Information that must be provided at the time of initial registration includes the offender’s:

- (1) full name;
- (2) identifying factors;
- (3) criminal-history record; and
- (4) residence address.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-251(a); § 54-252(a); § 54-254(a))

Offenders who are required to register and who have been convicted of a sexually violent offense must also provide documentation of any treatment received for a mental abnormality or personality disorder.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-252(a))

8. WHAT HAPPENS IF AN OFFENDER CHANGES HIS OR HER ADDRESS OR OTHER REGISTRATION INFORMATION DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD?

If an offender changes his or her address, he or she must, within five days of making the change, register the new address in writing with the Commissioner of Public Safety.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-251(a); § 54-252(a); § 54-253(b); § 54-254(a); § 54-256)

9. WHAT HAPPENS IF AN OFFENDER MOVES FROM CONNECTICUT TO ANOTHER STATE?

If an offender changes his or her address to another state, he or she must, within five days of making the change, register the new address in writing with the Commissioner of Public Safety. The offender must also register with the appropriate agency in the new state, provided that the new state has a registration

requirement. The same applies to offenders who live in Connecticut but work or go to school in another state.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-251(a); § 54-252(a); § 54-254(a); § 54-256)

10. IS AN OFFENDER WHO MOVES FROM ANOTHER STATE TO CONNECTICUT REQUIRED TO REGISTER?

Any person convicted of or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect in any other state, federal, or military court, or in any foreign jurisdiction of any offense, the essential elements of which are substantially the same as those under Connecticut law for a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, a nonviolent sexual offense, or a sexually violent offense, and who resides in Connecticut on or after October 1, 1998, must register with the Commissioner of Public Safety within 10 days of residing in Connecticut.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-253(a))

11. WHAT IF AN OFFENDER LIVES IN ANOTHER STATE BUT WORKS OR GOES TO SCHOOL IN CONNECTICUT?

Offenders who are registered in another state, and who do not live in Connecticut but who regularly travel to or within Connecticut, or who work or go to school in Connecticut must register with the Commissioner of Public Safety within three days of commencing such travel, employment, or schooling. The offender must register his or her name; identifying factors; criminal-history record; locations visited in Connecticut on a recurring basis or a residence address, if any; and his or her address in his or her home state.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-252(b))

If a nonresident registered offender's temporary, work, or school address changes, he or she must give written notice of the change to the Commissioner of Public Safety within five days.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-253(b))

12. IS REGISTRATION A LIFETIME REQUIREMENT?

Offenders convicted of committing a criminal offense against a victim who is a minor or a nonviolent sexual offense must maintain registration for 10 years; however, if the offender has one or more prior convictions of any such offense or if the offender was convicted of engaging in sexual intercourse with another person when the other person was under 13 and the offender was more than two years older than the victim, the offender must register for life.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-251(a))

Offenders convicted of sexually violent offenses maintain registration for life.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-252(a))

Offenders required to register for having committed a felony for a sexual purpose must maintain registration for a period of 10 years.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-254(a))

13. ARE THERE ANY PENALTIES FOR FAILING TO REGISTER OR FOR PROVIDING FALSE INFORMATION?

Failing to register is a Class D felony.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-251(d); § 54-252(d); § 54-253(c); § 54-254(b))

14. WHAT INFORMATION IS RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT REGISTERED OFFENDERS?

The Sex Offender Registry maintained by the Department of Public Safety is a public record that is accessible during normal business hours. Each local police department and each state police troop keeps a record of all registration information transmitted to it by the Department of Public Safety and is required to make such information available to the public during normal business hours.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-258(a)(1))

Any state agency, the Judicial Department, any state police troop, or any local police department can notify any government agency, private organization, or person of registration information when notification is necessary to protect the public or any person in any jurisdiction from any person who is required to register.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-258(a)(2))

Information available includes the offender's name, address, criminal-history record, and any known treatment history.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-256)

Courts do have the power, however, to restrict dissemination of registration information for individual offenders.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-255)

15. CAN I SEARCH THE INTERNET FOR OFFENDERS IN MY AREA?

The Connecticut Department of Public Safety maintains a sex-offender-registry web site, available at http://www.state.ct.us/dps/Sex_Offender_Registry.htm.

The web site can be searched by last name, town name, or zip code. Additionally a list of out-of-state offenders living in Connecticut is provided.

Information available includes the offender's:

- (1) photograph;
- (2) name and any aliases used;
- (3) date of birth;
- (4) registration address;
- (5) race;
- (6) sex;
- (7) hair and eye color;
- (8) height and weight;
- (9) scars, marks, or tattoos;
- (10) registration date;
- (11) date of last address verification;
- (12) crime requiring registration; and
- (13) date of conviction.

16. WHAT IS THE PENALTY FOR MISUSE OF OFFENDER INFORMATION?

Any person who uses information from the Sex-Offender Registry to injure, harass, or commit a criminal act against any person included in the Registry or any other person is subject to criminal prosecution.

(Conn. Gen. Stat. § 54-258a)