

CALIFORNIA SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)

How large is the CA sex offender registry?

■ Currently there are more than 109,000 individuals listed on the Registry ■ The Registry continues to grow at 5 percent or more each year ■ The CA Sex Offender Management Board projects 134,000 registrants by 2025 When did CA sex offender registry begin?

■ The Registry began in 1947 in the City of Los Angeles ■ The geographic scope expanded gradually ■ The Registry is now statewide What kind of offenses are considered sex offenses?

■ Sex offenses range from non-contact, non-violent misdemeanors such as public

indecentcy to violent rapes ■ Judges may also determine any offense to be a sex offense if it includes sexual

gratification What is the purpose of the CA sex offender registry?

■ The original purpose was to protect society from adult gay men ■ The current purpose is to protect society from individuals already convicted of a sex offense based upon a mistaken belief that registrants are likely to commit a new sex offense What is the actual rate at which registrants commit a new sex offense?

■ While on parole, registrants commit a new sex offense at a rate of less than 1%

according to the CA Department of Corrections ■ During a lifetime, registrants commit a new sex offense at a rate of about 5

percent, according to the U.S. Department of Justice ■ Registrants who live “in the community” for 17 years or more and don’t re-

offend are highly unlikely to commit a new sex offense, according to international expert Dr. Karl Hansen Do sex offender registries reduce the risk of sexual assaults?

■ Government and academic studies have concluded that registries do not reduce

risk of sexual assaults in a community ■ In fact, registries give families a “false

sense of security” because the most likely perpetrators of sexual assault are family members, teachers, coaches and clergy How long are individuals on the CA Sex Offender Registry?

■ Most individuals are on the Registry for a lifetime regardless if offense involved

physical touching or violence ■ Registration requirements are scheduled to change in 2021 when some registrants may be eligible to petition for removal from the Registry

**ALLIANCE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL SEX OFFENSE
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