



California Department of Justice

New Megan's Law Internet Site Fact Sheet

Assembly Bill 488, signed by the Governor in September 2004, now requires that specific information about persons required to register as sex offenders be posted on the Attorney General's Internet web site on or before July 1, 2005. We are pleased to announce that the information is now available online, at:

<http://MegansLaw.ca.gov> or <http://ag.ca.gov/meganslaw>

History of Megan's Law

Information on the whereabouts of registered sex offenders was NOT available to the public until the implementation of the Child Molester Identification Line in July 1995. A year later, in 1996, California's Megan's Law further expanded the information available to the public; however, access to the information could only be through a sheriff's office or a participating police department.

Information now available on the new Internet site

The new California Megan's Law Internet site provides the public with detailed information on more than 63,000 registered sex offenders, including those currently incarcerated. The information includes:

- Names
- Aliases (nicknames)
- Age
- Gender
- Race
- Physical description (including scars, marks and tattoos)
- Photograph
- Description of the conviction(s)
- County and Zip Code where the offender last registered

The Internet site provides home addresses for about 33,500 of the state's most serious sex offenders. Additionally, viewers can see if an individual is in violation of their registration requirement and the date they fell out of compliance.

You can search the web site by city, county or Zip Code; or by park, school or individual name.

California's Megan's Law provides the public with certain information on the whereabouts of sex offenders so that members of our local communities can protect themselves and their children. The law is not intended to punish the offender and specifically prohibits using the information to harass or commit any crime against the offender.