



SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

APRIL 2023

Legislation

Since October 1, 2000, in accordance with the **Sex Offender Registration Act of 1999** (D.C. Code §§ 22-4001—4017; “SORA”), the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) has operated and maintained the **Sex Offender Registry for the District of Columbia** in collaboration with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). SORA sets forth procedures and requirements related to registration, verification, and notification regarding sex offense registrants who live, work, or attend school in the District.

CSOSA registers individuals who have been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of an offense requiring registration, as well as those who have been adjudicated a sexual psychopath. Sections 4001(6) and (8) of SORA list the offenses requiring registration.

Classification and Registrant Requirements

At registration, a CSOSA Sex Offender Unit staff member determines the registrant's classification level and reporting requirements, reads the initial registration form to the registrant, explains the responsibilities, and describes penalties for noncompliance to the registrant. Each registrant is required to sign a form acknowledging that their duties under SORA have been explained.

All registrants are required to complete periodic registration updates with CSOSA based on their classification level, within 72 hours of being released from incarceration, and anytime there is a change in their registration information, such as their place of residence or employment, vehicle information, or physical appearance. Updates are

required to ensure that the registry information is accurate and complete. Each registrant is classified into one of three categories – Class A, Class B, or Class C offender, based upon the offense for which the individual was convicted.

Class A offenders have been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of the most serious offenses, such as certain sex offenses committed against a child under the age of 12 or forcible rape against a person of any age. Class A offenders have a lifetime registration requirement and are required to complete periodic updates every 90 days and within 72 hours of any changes to their registry profile.

Class B offenders have been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of a non-Class A sex offense against a person under the age of 18 or a first- or second-degree sexual abuse of a ward, patient, or client.

Class C offenders have been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of any other felony sex offense against a person 18 years or older.

Class B and C offenders are required to register for 10 years from the date of sentencing or for the duration of their period of supervision, whichever is longer. Offenders who were registered in another jurisdiction may receive credit for the time that they were registered in the other jurisdiction. Class B and C offenders are required to complete updates yearly and within 72 hours of any changes to their registry profile.

CSOSA's mission is to effectively supervise adults under our jurisdiction to enhance public safety, reduce recidivism, support the fair administration of justice, and promote accountability, inclusion and success through the implementation of evidence-based practices in close collaboration with our criminal justice partners and the community.

To learn more about CSOSA, visit www.csosa.gov.

Enforcement and Penalties

CSOSA reports all cases of noncompliance to the MPD. MPD and the United States Marshals Service (USMS) are responsible for enforcement of SORA with noncompliant registrants.

CSOSA's Sex Offender Registry Unit also regularly collaborates with MPD and the USMS to conduct Operation DC STAR (Sex Offender Tracking for Accountability and Registration) in which the law enforcement partners conduct home visits to verify the residential information reported to Sex Offender Registry staff.

Registrants who do not comply with the registration requirements may be subjected to criminal penalties. The first violation is a misdemeanor offense punishable by not more than 180 days imprisonment, a \$1,000 fine, or both. A second offense is a felony punishable by not more than five years imprisonment, a \$12,500 fine, or both. These penalties apply even if the first instance of noncompliance occurred in another jurisdiction.

Agency Reporting

As required by SORA, all information regarding active registrants is transmitted electronically to MPD and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. SORA does not authorize CSOSA to make registrant information available to the public (**D.C. Code §§ 22-4010(c)**).

Under SORA, MPD is responsible for providing registrant information to the public and provides a list of Class A and Class B offenders online at **sexoffender.dc.gov**. The public may also review the entire list of individuals on the Sex Offender Registry, including Class C offenders, by visiting one of the **MPD Registry Book locations or the MPD Sex Offender Registry Unit**.

For additional information, call (202) 585-7245 or email SORHelp@csosa.gov.

Information Collected from Registrants

CSOSA collects the following information from registrants:



- full name and aliases
- date of birth
- sex and race
- height and weight
- eye and hair color
- any identifying marks or characteristics



- home, employment, and school addresses
- these addresses are identified by block



- photograph(s) and fingerprints
- all offenses requiring registration, date of conviction, and jurisdiction of conviction