SEX OFFENDER LAW QUICK REFERENCE

40-39-201   LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

*Explains why the registry was created.

40-39-202   PART DEFINITIONS

Defines things like “convictions”, “parent”, “primary and secondary residences”, etc.

Also lists Sexual Offenses and Violent Sexual Offenses.

40-39-203   Offender Registration – Registration Forms – Contents

Lists registration requirements for offenders living, working, or attending school in TN.

Lists info and documents required for registration purposes.

40-39-204   Entering required data on SOR for verification, identification, and enforcement --
Reporting to up-date information or registration form -- Administrative costs -- TBI as central
repository -- Tolling of registration requirements -- Exemptions.

SOR registration, reporting and updates, Fees, Keeper of the Records, exemptions.


TBI is responsible for creation and distribution of forms.

40-39-206.   Centralized record system -- Reporting -- Violations -- Confidentiality of certain
registration information -- Immunity from liability -- Public information regarding offenders.

TBI shall establish, maintain and update a centralized record system of offender
registration, verification and tracking information.

TBI maintains the public website for the Sex Offender Registry.

40-39-207.   Request for termination of registration requirements -- Tolling of reporting period --
Review of decisions to deny termination of reporting requirements -- Lifetime registration.

Explains the termination process, including requesting termination, requirements to be removed, review of decisions to approve or deny termination, and lifetime registration.


Covers violations of the registry and includes penalties, venue, and providing certified copies of offender records for prosecution.
40-39-209. Removing records from SOR.

Removal from the registry due to expungement.


Submit a copy of the death certificate, police incident/accident report, coroner’s report or Social Security Death Index.

TBI will remove the offender from SOR and NCIC upon receipt of proof.

40-39-211. Residential and work restrictions.

Includes 1000’ ft. rule, living with minors, being on school grounds, attending school functions and parent/teacher conferences, dropping off or picking up children, # of offenders allowed to live together.


An offender is required to register in TN upon a plea of guilty or finding of guilt by a judge or jury.

This section also covers diversions.


Every offender required to register shall be responsible for obtaining a valid driver license or photo identification card no later than sixty (60) days from the date of Initial registration.


TBI shall provide all information in the registry about the offender that is made public.


Covers restrictions on Halloween, working unsupervised with minors, operating an ice cream truck or emergency vehicle.

40-39-216. Restricting access to public library.

Public library directors shall have the authority to reasonably restrict the access of any person listed on the sexual offender registry.