



Ready to Protect
Proud to Serve

NEWS RELEASE

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NEW SEX OFFENDER PUBLIC NOTIFICATION WEBSITE

The Tucson Police Department has launched a new sex offender registration and public notification website. The site is called *OffenderWatch*. Tucson Police will now be a part of a nationwide network of over 5000 law enforcement agencies, which works in partnership with the Pima County Sheriff's Office as well as other agencies across the state utilizing the system to monitor and track registered sex offenders.

This new service offers citizens an easy-to-use website to search for potentially dangerous sex offenders which may be in close proximity to their homes, places of work, schools, churches, and daycare centers. The information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and is updated in real time by the Tucson Police Department as offender information changes and is reported.

As part of this new, innovative service, citizens may enter any address of interest within the city limits to see a map and listing of all offenders within the user-defined radius (between .25 miles to 2 miles) of that address. Citizens can also input their address to receive an email alerting them if a registered sex offender should register at an address within their specified radius. Citizens may confidentially register as many addresses as they like (i.e. schools, workplaces, etc.) at no cost to them.

The purpose of the program is to lessen the anxiety of citizens by proactively alerting them should an offender move within proximity to them as well as to provide the highest level of security and safety to all Tucson citizens. Public notification regarding Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders is mandated by state and federal law. The implementation of this new program demonstrates the Tucson Police Department's commitment to fulfilling that obligation through innovative means.

Citizens can access the Tucson Police Department's *OffenderWatch* search page by clicking on the "locate Sex Offenders" link under the "How Do I..." section of the Departments web page, <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

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