



Tennessee Department of Children's Services

Protocol for Tennessee Sex Offender Registry

Supplemental to DCS Policy: [13.10, Custody Requirements for Justice Involved Youth, 13.11 Trial Home Visit and Aftercare Requirements for Delinquent Youth, 13.12, Probation Requirements for Delinquent Youth](#)

A youth who has been adjudicated delinquent (Social Services or Juvenile Justice) in Tennessee for the offenses listed below is required to register on the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry (SOR) if the youth was at least 14 years of age (but less than 18) on the date the offense was committed. ([Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-39-202 \(28\)](#)).

- ◆ Aggravated rape
- ◆ Rape
- ◆ Rape of a child (if the victim is at least four years younger than the offender or if a judge orders registration)
- ◆ Aggravated rape of a child
- ◆ Aggravated sexual battery (on or after 7/1/2014)
- ◆ Criminal attempt to commit any of the offenses listed above

Note: Prior to the adjudication hearing, youth should be given verbal and written notice of registration requirements using the TBI Sex Offender Instruction Form.

The juvenile court of adjudication is required to submit a registration form to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) within 48 hours of adjudication. However, any local state officer or agency having knowledge of a juvenile adjudication that meets the criteria above is also required to provide the following registration information to the Sex Offender Registry Unit at the TBI:

- ◆ Name of adjudicated youth;
- ◆ Name of court and date of adjudication;
- ◆ Charges for which the youth was adjudicated; and
- ◆ The name and contact information for the court clerk and presiding judge in the county of adjudication.
- ◆ SOR Registration and Instructions Forms can be found at www.tn.gov/tbi/law-enforcement-resources/law-enforcement-resources0/tennessee-sex-offender-registry/sor-forms.

Note: The TBI Sex Offender Registry Unit can be reached at TBISORMGR@tbi.tn.gov

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Once the registration form is received at the TBI the youth will be contacted to report to the local law enforcement office to complete the following:

- ◆ Finger and palm prints;
- ◆ Take a photograph which is uploaded to the SOR database;
- ◆ Provides a DNA sample;
- ◆ Provide a copy of a valid driver's license, if applicable;
- ◆ Provide the name, address and telephone number of the probation or parole officer, if the juvenile is on aftercare.

Note: If a youth is in custody, the address of the treatment facility is used as the primary address, and the secondary address is the address where the youth will reside when not in custody.

Requirements for Registered Youth

In order to supervise juvenile sex offenders, DCS case managers familiarize themselves with the requirements offenders are required to follow in addition to the DCS rules of supervision. Violation of the sex offender registry rules is considered a delinquent act.

- a) Upon release from custody, or when moving residence, the youth is required to report a new address to local law enforcement within 48 hours of establishing a change of residence.
- b) Registered youth are required to report in person, to the local law enforcement agency, in March, June, September and December of each calendar year.
- c) The juvenile sex offender registry is not public information. However, if a registered juvenile sex offender is subsequently adjudicated delinquent or convicted as an adult for an offense requiring registration, the youth must stay on the registry for life and, once the youth reaches 18, the youth's registration becomes public information.
- d) If the victim was under the age of 13 (12 years of age or less), in the original adjudication and the offense occurred July 1, 2014 or after, the youth remains on the registry for life per [Tenn. Code Ann. § 40-39-207](#). If the victim was age of 13 or older, the youth may apply to be removed from the registry when they turn 25.
- e) Registered youth are required to pay the annual Sex Offender Registry fee and obtain a photo identification card/driver's license when they turn 18.
- f) See DCS Policy, [13.3, Interstate Compact for Juveniles](#), for registration requirements for youth moving to or from Tennessee.

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