



February 5, 2007

Honorable Garey D. Bies
Honorable Scott Suder
Wisconsin Legislative Council Special Committee on Placement of Sex Offenders
Room 125 West
Room 21 North
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Chairmen and members of the Committee:

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to finding a better solution to the issues surrounding placement of sex offenders and sexually violent persons in the State of Wisconsin.

I have been following this issue for more than five years now. My interest initially was the protection of my neighborhood from a forced placement of a sexually violent person. Since my initial actions, I've been involved in turning back three additional attempts to place not just one, but by some account up to 70 sexually violent persons in my community.

It has become abundantly clear to me that this issue is about making changes to statutes so that the impact on society is clearly recognized and balanced against the rights of the offender and predator.

Through the years the perceptions of the community, the judiciary and politicians have come clearly into focus. It has brought with it a spotlight on some weaknesses in the way the State treats sex offenders and sexually violent persons, but more importantly, how current legislation does more to protect the rights of the offender more than the safety and well being of the community, all communities.

Please consider my comments on the issues that you are now trying to resolve:

- **Returning SVP's to the community that they came from.**

This issue, for some reason, appears to be difficult for some politicians to understand. Some politicians believe that all SVP's and maybe even all sex offenders ought to be placed in a single community that isn't theirs and that that would solve the problem. Certainly, it would solve the problem for all

communities other than the one community that is the target and doesn't have the political clout to prevent it. That's the politics of placing predators. Politics has overlooked inherent fairness in this provision.

- Equitable to all. The provision doesn't transfer the problem or responsibility nor the liability to another community. In essence, the responsibility for the SVP is placed on the community from which the SVP came from.
- Politically equitable; if you don't accept your own then someone may give you theirs.
- Solves the problem of where to place SVP's. Each community knows best where the sensitive sites are. They know their children, where they play and congregate. They also know sites where SVP placement would have the least impact on the community.
- NOT taking your own SVP's defies logic. After all, if you espouse the theory that SVP's (and other sex offenders) can be cured (or be better), then they would be safe to roam your own community. If you are concerned for your community's safety and want SVP's put in another community, then they obviously are NOT safe to be roaming any community's streets and should remain incarcerated or in treatment.

- **Conditions of Release**

- All SVP's must submit to a face-to-face examination by a minimum of three State appointed psychiatrists who have training in sexual deviancy prior to any petition for and as a condition of a petition for release from supervision. We know many SVP's including Billy Lee Morford who now simply refuse to be examined. Prosecutors and Judges are powerless to compel current and qualified examination. If aren't allowed to examine and speak with the SVP how can the court accurately judge their threat to the community?
- Burden of proof should be on the SVP. Current statute places the burden on the State to prove that the SVP is no longer likely to offend. Given that most SVP's no longer participate in treatment or evaluation it is the SVP who should demonstrate that they are no longer "more likely than not" to re-offend.
- Offenders who's crimes require that they register with the Department of Corrections must register in person with their local law enforcement agency at the following events:
 - Moving to or from the community
 - Every 6 months or more frequently
 - Establishing a residence or occupation in the municipality
- On registering, the offender must submit to an interview with the law enforcement agency with regard to his/her common activities, residency, occupation, etc. and be photographed.
- The offender must make themselves available for the local law enforcement agency to photograph them for use on the DOC SOR and

local SOR's no more than every 6 months. State statutes must provide sanctions for deliberate attempts to change appearance in an attempt to deceive the public.

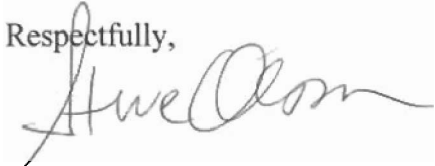
- **GPS**

- The effectiveness of GPS tracking of offenders came into focus the last week of January for the residents of the City of Wauwatosa as a charged sex offender facing a long list of charges was released from custody by a circuit court Judge on the condition that he'd be tracked by GPS as well as being confined to his home. The charged offender the very next day tampered with the GPS, was reported as doing so by the contracted GPS vendor and re-arrested and placed back into jail within 48 hours of his release. ACTIVE GPS works. Under current release plans without GPS there would be no way to know that the offender had violated the terms of his release.
- The practice of objecting to cost without independent bidding is irresponsible. GPS devices are now planted in your child's shoes and the service to display their position is pennies a day. What makes anyone believe that the cost to ACTIVELY monitor any number of offenders is much more effective than hiring more State agents? The cost of actively monitoring is a small price to pay for a reasonable amount of insurance protecting our children.
- Effective use of active GPS removes the housing by the state requirement. The concept that the State (taxpayers) must provide housing for these SVP's is unique and foreign to the taxpayers. With 24 hour active GPS tracking monitored constantly with exclusion and inclusion zones, the SVP no longer needs to be in a building owned or leased by the state. The SVP can now be responsible for his own housing with the approval of the Court and State, thereby removing the financial burden on the taxpayers.
- Provides for instantaneous and continuous monitoring. Current technology allows for an endless amount of information and flexibility in control. With Geographic Information Systems in place, an SVP can be restricted within a specific parcel of land or parcels. Any number of parcels can be either included or excluded from where they may venture. The current technology allows for instant alarm and many methods of notification when any movement violates a rule set down by an appropriate authority. Phone, e-mail, pager, text message all can be instantaneous and informative providing law enforcement the tools it needs to protect the community.
- In addition, using the capabilities of the Internet, providers of the GPS tracking service can offer authorized law enforcement REAL TIME monitoring of their areas of responsibility. Should an offender choose to venture into a monitoring community, that community can watch the offender as though they were a chaperone of the offender and respond appropriately.

I hope you take my input as an attempt to continue to solve the problems from within.

If I may be of any assistance to any of you, please do not hesitate to call.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Olson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "S" and "O".

Steve Olson
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