

Sex Offender Registry



Jim Matthai, Chief Deputy at Pottawattamie Co. Sheriffs' Office, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on December 11. He started as a bailiff in 1980 and was on road patrol from 1981-1986.

In 2005 Iowa passed a law that sex offenders cannot live within 2000 feet of a school. The courts upheld the law in 2007, but it was very difficult to enforce. The law was based on where people sleep overnight, so people would spend the day at a house within that area, but had to leave by midnight.

In 2009, 24 deputies went to the Iowa legislature to ask for changes. The law was

amended to be more enforceable. The new law says sex offenders cannot loiter within 300 feet of a restricted area. They also must get permission from the school or public library before they can enter those areas, but have to go there for business, not just to hang around.

There are about 160 sex offenders on the registry for this area. Almost all of them are perpetrators are family members or friends. They cannot live with someone who has small children, or the offender and the person they live with can be arrested.

For more information see: www.iowasexoffender.com