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Don't Trick or Treat Here!

OCTOBER 26TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Stoddard County, MO - As we approach Halloween and the holiday season, the Stoddard County Sheriff's Office has verified that there are presently have 119 registered sex offenders falling under the rules of the Halloween restriction portion of the statute in Stoddard County. The majority of these offenders have committed sex offenses involving children.

Sheriff's Deputies are proactively delivering a message from the sheriff to applicable sex offenders in our county to remind them of their requirements during this season.

"We have already had our annual check of offenders in the county," stated Andy Holden, Stoddard County Sheriff's Department, "We have our deputies go to their residence one time per year and do a physical check to make sure they are living at that address and are still registered."

The Missouri Highway Patrol maintains an online link to an interactive map that can be viewed by the public identifying where Registered Sex Offenders reside and why they are required to register.

Holden also explained that the states number of registered sex offenders could be a little different because they are counting offenders who are incarcerated, have moved but not registered at another agency or people who live in another county but work in Stoddard County.

In 2010, Missouri lawmakers passed a new piece of legislation aimed at protecting trick-or-treaters from convicted sex offenders on Halloween night. The law requires registered sex offenders to stay inside their homes between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 10:30 pm. with all exterior lighting turned off.

The Missouri Highway Patrol maintains an online link to an interactive map that can be viewed by the public identifying where Registered Sex Offenders reside and why they are required to register.

Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of Stoddard County Registered Offenders. Please remember this changes daily as new offenders register or move in and out of the county into another county.

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