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# Memorandum

**To:** Sex Offenses & Sex Offender Registration Task Force Members

**From:** ICJIA Staff

**Date:** 04-26-2017

**Re:** Policy Discussion at Task Force Meeting 05-03-2017

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This memorandum outlines additional policies research staff identified that correspond to the research presented on April 19, 2017 and planned for May 03, 2017. A summary of the current practices in Illinois is provided along with the information supporting each policy statement.

## **Limit or remove residence restrictions for persons convicted of a sex offense.**

**Currently in Illinois:** According to Illinois statute, persons convicted of a sex offense are restricted from living within 500 feet of a school, playground, or any facility providing programs or services exclusively directed toward people under the age of 18. While the statute limits the restriction to only those convicted of certain offenses, in practice it seems the restriction is placed broadly on all persons on the registry. In addition, certain municipalities have extended the 500 foot restriction to upwards of 2,000 feet.

**What the research says:** Residence restrictions do not decrease sexual reoffending or the sex crime rates in the areas they are used. Most offenders do not victimize strangers and meet their victims in private residences. In addition, there are many negative effects on the offenders, such as increased homelessness and loss of family support. Residence restrictions are not recommended for use (Lobanov-Rostovsky, 2017).

## **Remove the option of lifetime Mandatory Supervised Release (MSR) for persons convicted of sex offenses.**

**Currently in Illinois:** For individuals convicted of certain sex offenses (i.e. predatory criminal sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual assault, and aggravated child pornography), Illinois statute lists their MSR term shall range from 3 years to life. The parole agents complete progress reports every 180 days.

**What the research says:** As persons remain offense free, their risk levels decrease. There is not a population of people who remain at the highest risk for their entire lives without committing a new offense, so lifetime parole is targeting a population of persons that do not exist (Hanson, 2017).