

**I thought Sex Offenders cannot live within 1,000 feet of a school, day care, park, or school bus stop, but I know one that does. Why aren't you charging him/her with a crime?**

Ohio Law States:

**[§ 2950.03.1] § 2950.031. Residing within 1,000 feet of school premises prohibited; injunctive relief.**

(A) No person who has been convicted of, is convicted of, has pleaded guilty to, or pleads guilty to either a sexually oriented offense that is not a registration-exempt sexually oriented offense or a child-victim oriented offense shall establish a residence or occupy residential premises within one thousand feet of any school premises.

(B) If a person to whom division (A) of this section applies violates division (A) of this section by establishing a residence or occupying residential premises within one thousand feet of any school premises, an owner or lessee of real property that is located within one thousand feet of those school premises, or the prosecuting attorney, village solicitor, city or township director of law, similar chief legal officer of a municipal corporation or township, or official designated as a prosecutor in a municipal corporation that has jurisdiction over the place at which the person establishes the residence or occupies the residential premises in question, has a cause of action for injunctive relief against the person. The plaintiff shall not be required to prove irreparable harm in order to obtain the relief.

Currently, Ohio law does not allow Sex Offenders to reside within 1,000 feet of a school. It DOES NOT forbid offenders from living near day cares, parks, bus stops, etc. The law DOES NOT establish a criminal penalty for violations; therefore Law Enforcement CANNOT arrest or prosecute violators. Instead, violations are handled through civil proceedings. The prosecutor/law director of the affected community must file in their local court for injunctive relief, which is essentially a court order instructing the offender to relocate. When an offender registers an address with our office we determine if it is in violation of O.R.C. 2950.031. If we find the address to be too close to a school we inform the offender of such and require them to sign a form stating that they have been made aware of the law, the fact that they are in violation, and the possible ramifications. A list is compiled of all violators within each city and that list available to all police departments, cities and citizens to be aware of.