

**POSITION STATEMENT
THE MANAGEMENT OF SEXUAL OFFENDERS
SHOULD BE BASED ON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
AND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE**

The major concern of the Oklahoma Coalition for Sex Offender Management (OKCSOM) is the sexual abuse of those among us who are most vulnerable. Most convicted sex offenders reside or, following a period of incarceration, will reside in the community. Given this fact, communities must explore the best way to manage community based sexual offenders.

OKCSOM is a multidisciplinary coalition that has come together to address this issue. We advocate for public safety through the management of sex offenders in our communities. We believe effective management of sex offenders requires researched-based assessment, treatment and supervision and we promote research on sexual offending in Oklahoma.

Our philosophy is victim centered as we recognize the importance of managing sex offenders by understanding the needs of victims and potential victims.

OKCSOM believes there is a current need to provide accurate information to the community regarding sexual offender issues including research-based risk analysis as well as ways to protect children. In addition, the families of sex offenders should be educated on issues regarding offender dynamics and appropriate methods of support. Finally, specialized training for treatment providers and probation/parole officers is necessary in order for these professionals to understand offender dynamics.

OKCSOM advocates for the oversight of those involved in the treatment and supervision of sex offenders to ensure that public safety is enhanced by the use of research-based offender management methods.

OKCSOM recognizes the burden placed on the Oklahoma legislature to create laws designed to promote public safety. Our coalition desires to provide guidance and recommendations regarding legislation and public policy as these issues relate to sex offenders.

OKCSOM believes that education, oversight and research-based legislation will greatly enhance the management of sex offenders in our communities and potentially reduce further sexual victimization.