

Press Release:



*Latah County Idaho Sheriff's Office announces their startup of the most innovative and collaborative national sex offender program, **OffenderWatch**®.*

Latah County Sheriff Wayne Rausch announced the Latah County Sheriff's Office has implemented **OffenderWatch**® to manage registered sex offenders in the community and make effective community notifications. **OffenderWatch**® enables Idaho law enforcement agencies to collaborate and share information with law enforcement partners statewide, to include Sheriff's Offices, Police Departments, and others. This information sharing provides all law enforcement agencies all the information concerning sex offender movements, history and activities anywhere in the county, state or country. Soon, all agencies in the state are expected to be on-line.

OffenderWatch® is currently used by more than 1,000 leadership jurisdictions in 30 states to register, track and disseminate community information regarding sex offenders. Nearly half the registered sex offenders in the US are in **OffenderWatch**® databases, available for searching or importing.

The **OffenderWatch**® database enables **citizens anywhere in Latah County**, plus **OffenderWatch**® participating neighboring jurisdictions, to see maps and get email notifications concerning offenders near any address important to them. Citizens may enter any address of interest to them, and see a map and listing of offenders within their preferred radius of that address. Then, they may confidentially register the address to be continuously monitored by the agency, which will send to them an email alerting them if an offender or predator should register an address within their preferred radius of their registered address. Usually, citizens will register their homes, work addresses, parks, playgrounds, bus stops or other addresses of interest to them.

Citizens may also confidentially register to be notified if a specific offender, who they wish to track, moves from his present address. Citizens may register as many addresses as they like, at no cost to them.

Citizens may access the Latah County Sheriff's Office County **OffenderWatch**® Community Web Page 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at the Latah Sheriff's Office's web site at: www.sheriffalerts.com/id/latah or at various other web sites that will link to the Latah County Sheriff's Office **OffenderWatch**® Community Web Page.