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ATTORNEY GENERAL RAOUL REMINDS FAMILIES TO PLAN FOR A SAFE HALLOWEEN

Chicago — Attorney General Kwame Raoul today is reminding parents and guardians to check the state's [sex offender registry](#) and with local law enforcement agencies before finalizing Halloween plans.

"Halloween should be a night of fun, family, and of course, candy. Just as parents and guardians plan ahead for the weather and ensure they follow public health guidelines to protect children from COVID, I encourage them to protect their trick-or-treaters by checking Illinois' sex offender registry before they leave home," Raoul said. "Illinois law prohibits child sex offenders from distributing candy, but searching the sex offender registry is a quick and easy step that adds another layer of protection to ensure families have a happy Halloween."

Raoul notes that Illinois law prohibits all sex offenders who committed a crime against a child from distributing candy or other items to children on Halloween. The law also prohibits sex offenders from participating in trick-or-treat events or other Halloween events involving children younger than 18. Sex offenders on parole, mandatory supervised release and probation may have other conditions imposed upon them to protect the public. They may be prohibited from having their porch lights on and from leaving their homes, except for verified work purposes.

As of October 2021, there were more than 33,000 registered sex offenders listed on the Illinois Sex Offender Registry, and more than 27,000 of those committed a crime against a child. The registry is administered by the Illinois State Police.