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CHICAGO, IL – The U.S. Marshals Service, partnering with the Chicago Police Department, Attorney General's Office, and Illinois State Police, conducted a successful operation specifically targeting Non –Compliant Sex Offenders in the Chicago area. Operation FORCED COMPLIANCE netted 40 arrests within the Chicagoland area.

Operation FORCED COMPLIANCE combined the collective efforts of the U.S. Marshals Service, Chicago Police Department, Attorney General's Office and Illinois State Police in one of the area's largest Non- Compliant initiatives. Operation FORCED COMPLIANCE focused on apprehending sexual predators currently non-compliant with the Illinois Sex Offender Registration Act. Under the Act convicted sex offenders are mandated by Statute to register and maintain accurate records with the State of Illinois, failure to do so will result in non compliance, which can lead to new charges and arrest.

Operation FORCED COMPLIANCE took place from November 2009 through January 2010. Over the course of 8 weeks, the cooperating law enforcement agencies arrested a total of 40 non-compliant Sex Offenders, and cleared more than 190 non-compliant Sex Offenders on the Illinois State Registry. As a result of the interagency teamwork and combined resources, 30 percent of all non-compliant Sex Offenders in the city of Chicago were cleared off the State of Illinois Registry.

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Commander for the Great Lakes Regional Task Force, Jason Grunwald, praised the statistical data from the operation. "The statistical examples highlighted are only the obvious examples of the impact of this operation." Grunwald said. "In addition to the 40 individuals arrested, 30% of non-compliant cases in the city of Chicago were cleared and their due diligence requirements satisfied. The same amount of work if tasked to a small team of investigators, would equate to thousands of personnel hours. The success of this operation highlights the cooperative relationship and information sharing among all the members of the law enforcement community."

Superintendent Jody P. Weis commended the initiative stating he "commends the Great Lakes Fugitive Task Force for their hard work, dedication and results. Together, we are sending a powerful message to anyone thinking of not complying with the law: Don't do it, or you will end up back in prison." The task force supplements the Chicago Police Department's ongoing efforts to ensure that sex offenders are in compliance, including: assigning district officers to conduct address checks for registered sex offenders on an annual basis; locating and arresting the offender when they are not found in compliance; and utilizing gang and tactical teams to locate non-compliant sex offenders.

Amongst the 500 non-compliant Sex Offenders in the city of Chicago was: Carnell Miller, a convicted sexual predator who has been in and out of the penal system for over thirty years; his extensive criminal history dates back to 1979. Miller's 1991 conviction for Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault requires him to register as a Sexual Offender in the State of Illinois. Since his release from prison Miller has been convicted of violating IL Statute 730-150/6 requiring Sex Offenders to notify the State of Illinois of any address change within 3 days. On numerous occasions MILLER failed to report changes to his address in 2002, 2003, 2006 and on January 6, 2010, during Operation FORCED COMPLIANCE, Miller was apprehended and charged with violating the sex offender registration act.

Another example of the operation's success was the arrest of Edward Campbell, a non-compliant Sex offender who has an extensive criminal history including: Domestic Battery, Criminal Sexual Assault, Criminal Sexual Abuse, Theft, Drugs, and Unlawful Use of a Weapon. In 2004 Campbell was convicted of Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse, requiring him to register as a convicted Sex Offender in the State of Illinois. Campbell failed to comply with the Illinois Sex Offender Registration and his location was unknown. During Operation FORCED COMPLIANCE, Campbell was located, arrested and charged as a non-compliant sex offender in the State of Illinois.

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The Cooperating Agencies stress that Operation FORCED COMPLIANCE is not a one-time operation. These agencies will continue to work together to arrest non-compliant Sex Offenders throughout the United States.

Acting U. S. Marshal John O'Malley ensured "the United States Marshals Service is committed to working with State, County and Local law enforcement to identify, locate and arrest non-compliant sex offenders. The number of non-compliant sex offenders is large and we will continue the effort to minimize the possibility of these offenders causing harm in our community. The goal is to make sure convicted sex offenders comply with the law and remain in compliance. One sex offender whose whereabouts and activities are unknown, is one too many. We cannot monitor all sex offenders 24/7 but attempting to force them into compliance can further the effort of making our community safer. "

"Every sex offender whose whereabouts are unknown leaves our community vulnerable, which is why this operation is so critical for tracking non-compliant offenders who ignore the law," said Attorney General Lisa Madigan, who created the Illinois Sex Offender Registry Team (I-SORT) in December 2003 to increase compliance with the registration laws and improve the information available on the state's sex offender registry.

"I want to commend the U. S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force, the Chicago Police Department and all the participating agencies for the work they have done to bring about these results. It takes all of us working together to create safer streets for our children."

I-SORT members have conducted targeted raids and used tips from the I-SORT hotline to locate non-compliant offenders, worked to improve the accuracy of the information on the sex offender web site and launched a public awareness campaign to publicize the importance of the web site as a tool to protect families.

In Conclusion, O'Malley sends a message to non-compliant sex offenders: "Non-compliant sex offenders take note... you need to contact your local police department and make certain you are registered and in compliance. If not we will be seeking you out and we will arrest you."

*Members of the public with information concerning the whereabouts of non-compliant sex offenders are urged to call I-SORT at 1-888-41ISORT (1-888-414-7678 or send e-mail to locationunknown@atg.state.il.us.

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