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October 30, 2015

ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN REMINDS FAMILIES TO CHECK SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY TO PLAN SAFE TRICK-OR-TREAT ROUTES

Chicago — As Halloween approaches, Attorney General Lisa Madigan reminded parents to check the state's [sex offender registry](#) and with their local law enforcement agency before determining trick-or-treat routes for their children.

"I encourage families to check the registry before they head out on Halloween to help them plan safe trick-or-treating routes for their children," Madigan said.

Madigan noted that Illinois law prohibits all child sex offenders from distributing candy or others items to children on Halloween. 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.

In advance of Halloween, Madigan's office conducted compliance checks on sexually violent persons as part of her Illinois Sex Offender Registry Team (I-SORT). The compliance checks verify that offenders actually live where they claim to so that the sex offender registry continues to serve as a useful tool for parents. As of October 2015, there were more than 28,500 registered sex offenders in Illinois.

Madigan created the Illinois Sex Offender Registry Team (I-SORT) in 2003 and launched a statewide public awareness campaign to educate Illinoisans about the registry and the information available on the site. Madigan's office also established a toll-free hotline – 1-888-41-ISORT – which the public and law enforcement can call with questions and with tips about non-compliant sex offenders.

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