

**SEXUAL OFFENDER DESIGNATIONS
AND JIMMY RYCE CASES**

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SEXUAL PREDATOR AND OFFENDER DESIGNATIONS

Exile v. Miami-Dade County, 35 Fla. L. Weekly D (Fla. 3d DCA 2010):

Legislature has not clearly preempted local regulation of the field of sexual predators, so as to invoke the doctrine of “implied preemption.”

Municipal code provision prohibiting convicted sexual offenders from residing within 2500 feet of a school did not conflict with less restrictive 1000-foot buffer zone provided by state law, and thus was not preempted by state law.

Cuevas v. State, 35 Fla. L. Weekly D (Fla. 3rd DCA 2010):

The State had the authority to seek to have defendant declared a sexual predator after he had completed his sentence and had been released from prison; the sexual predator statute did not impose a criminal penalty, and the statute did not state that the consequence of a failure to make a written sexual predator finding at the time of sentencing constituted a waiver of the right to make that finding in the future.

Munroe v. State, 28 So.3d 973 (Fla. 2d DCA 2010):

To convict a defendant of failure to register as a sexual offender, the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is a sexual offender unless the defendant stipulates that he or she is a sexual offender.
<http://web2.westlaw.com/find/default.wl?tf=-1&rs=WLW10.03&fn=top&sv=Split&docname=FLSTS943.0435&tc=-1&pbc=ECFD4AE3&ordoc=2021461499&findtype=L&db=1000006&vr=2.0&rp=%2ffind%2fdefault.wl&mt=31>

Where a sexual offender designation is based on a conviction for a crime that does not necessarily include a sexual component, such as false imprisonment, the State must also prove that there was a sexual component to the crime.

Kingry v. State, 35 Fla. L. Weekly D378 (Fla. 1st DCA 2010):

Defendant's agreement to a sexual predator designation was a bargained-for part of the plea agreement; having freely and voluntarily entered into the agreement and accepted its benefits, he could not subsequently seek in a postconviction motion to be relieved of one of the burdens imposed upon him pursuant to the agreement.

Simmons v. State, 35 Fla. L. Weekly D98 (Fla. 1st DCA 2009):

Trial court erroneously denied defendant's petition to remove the requirement that he register as sexual offender because he had been adjudicated guilty of violating law prohibiting lewd or lascivious offenses committed upon or in the presence of persons less than 16 and court did not consider the other requirements of the statute, providing that defendant convicted of violating lewd and lascivious law, as well as other enumerated offenses, was automatically designated a sexual offender and required to comply with registration requirements, but defendant could petition sentencing court for removal from sex offender registry if he satisfied certain criteria.

Courson v. State, 35 Fla. L. Weekly D87 (Fla. 1st DCA 2009):

Defendant who was charged with lewd and lascivious battery of a victim over 12 but under 16 years of age against two separate victims in two separate cases, but who pleaded guilty to the lesser included offenses of lewd or lascivious conduct in both cases, did not qualify for sexual offender registration exemption under "Romeo and Juliet Law," even though registration may have been an unintended consequence of joint disposition of defendant's separate cases.

The District Court of Appeal is without power to construe an unambiguous statute in a way which would extend, modify, or limit its express terms or its reasonable and obvious implications; to do so would be an abrogation of legislative power.

Offenders with multiple sex crime convictions are ineligible for the "Romeo and Juliet" exemption from the sexual offender registration requirement.

Davis v. State, 34 Fla. L. Weekly D (Fla. 5th DCA 2009):

Defendant's criminal conviction for sexual battery on a child under 12 by a person under 18 years of age triggered designation as a sexual predator, where defendant was not adjudicated delinquent, notwithstanding youthful offender sentence.

Miller v. State, 34 Fla. L. Weekly D1606 (Fla. 5th DCA 2009):

Because a consensual act is a prerequisite for removal from the sex offender registry and Miller was unable to persuade the trial court that the offense of which he was convicted was consensual, he is not entitled to removal under section 943.04354, Florida Statutes.

Discussion: The 18-year-old defendant was convicted for lewd battery against a 15-year-old victim. He moved to remove his sexual offender designation pursuant to the Romeo and Juliet Act. In order to comply with Adam Walsh Act, the court must find that the sexual act was consensual before removal of the

designation. The defendant argued that the court should rely on the elements of F.S. 800.04 without considering the underlying facts. The court disagreed and considered testimony on the consent issue. The appellate court ruled that the trial court was correct.

Dennis v. State, 34 Fla. L. Weekly D (Fla. 2d DCA 2009):

Defendant was charged by information with committing sexual offenses between January 1, 1993 and February 28, 1994 and the jury convicted him accordingly. The trial court was in error for designating him a sexual predator because the act did not take effect until October 1, 1993 and the date range charged preceded that date.

Brown v. State, 34 Fla. L. Weekly D1242 (4th DCA 2009):

Evidence was insufficient to show defendant, previously convicted of failure to register as a sex offender, willfully and substantially violated probation by failing to produce valid identification to Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) for purposes of registration after being instructed to do so; defendant testified that he was told that he needed birth certificate in order to get identification card or otherwise register with DHSMV, and defendant's unrefuted testimony was that he was unable to obtain birth certificate in his home state because facility from which he could obtain copy had burned down.

Davis v. State, 34 Fla. L. Weekly D1311 (Fla. 5th DCA 2009):

Defendant's conviction for sexual battery on a child under 12 by a person under 18 years of age, resulting in youthful offender sentence, triggered designation as a sexual predator; defendant was sanctioned as an adult.

Krampert v. State, 34 Fla. L. Weekly D1179 (Fla. 2d DCA 2009):

The trial court instructed the jury that the State need only establish that Krampert was a sexual predator and that he failed to reregister as a sexual predator during the sixth month following his birth month. This instruction omitted the knowledge element and precluded the jury from determining whether Krampert knowingly failed to reregister. The instruction was an incorrect statement of the law and had the effect of negating Krampert's only defense: that he did not knowingly fail to reregister.

Because the trial court erroneously concluded that knowledge was not an element of the crime, it excluded Krampert's evidence on the issue of whether he

knowingly violated the statute. Had the jury heard and accepted Krampert's defense, that based on his discussion with the deputy he believed he had satisfied his reregistration requirement for July 2006, the jury may have returned a not guilty verdict. Thus, we conclude that the trial court's failure to give correct instructions to the jury constitutes fundamental error, and we reverse and remand for a new trial. The deputy's statement to Krampert was not hearsay because it was not offered for the truth of the matter asserted.

Almond v. State, 34 Fla. L. Weekly D372 (Fla. 1st DCA 2009):

Evidence of defendant's sex offender registration forms and applications for a driver's license were inadmissible hearsay in failure to register as a sexual offender case; none of these documents were self-authenticating business records, a record custodian was not present to testify as to their authenticity, and they did not fall under the public records exception to the hearsay rule.

Deputy's testimony that he verified defendant did not reside at registered address after speaking to a resident of the address, that he located defendant after speaking to defendant's girlfriend, that defendant was residing at different address in violation of the sexual offender registration requirements, and that he knew defendant was required to register as a sexual offender because of notice he received from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), was inadmissible hearsay in failure to register as a sexual offender case.

Defendant's written statement could not be admitted into evidence, in failure to register as sexual offender case before the state had established the corpus delicti of the charged crime.

Moore v. State, 33 Fla. L. Weekly D2347 (Fla. 5th DCA 2008):

This case discuss whether the specific language in the Failure to Register information was sufficient and whether the jury instruction was proper.

“Even if an information fails to allege the essential elements of a crime, it is sufficient if it references specific sections of the criminal code detailing all the elements of the offense...Consequently, the State's citation to [section 943.0435](#) was sufficient to allow it to prove Moore was a sexual offender under any of the three theories provided in that statute.”

Saintelien v. State, 33 Fla. L. Weekly S587 (Fla. 4th DCA 2008):

A defendant may seek correction of an allegedly erroneous sexual predator designation by filing a motion to correct an illegal sentence in criminal court, in cases where it is apparent from the face of the record that the defendant did not meet the criteria for designation as a sexual predator; abrogating *Boyer v. State*, 946 So.2d 75.

Defendant met the criteria for designation as a sexual predator, and thus challenge to his sexual predator designation could not be raised in motion to correct an illegal sentence filed in criminal court.

Derosa v. Tunnel, 33 Fla. L. Weekly D1978 (Fla. 4th DCA 2008)

Defendant who entered plea to two counts of lewd and lascivious conduct and had formal adjudication of conviction withheld was required to register as a sexual offender, despite defendant's contention that exception to the registration requirement for sexual offenders whose civil rights have been restored applied to him because his civil rights were never lost due to the withholding of adjudication; registration statute explicitly included sexual offenders as to whom adjudication was withheld, while excluding only those who were actively pardon.

State v. Wooding, 33 Fla. L. Weekly D1654 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2008):

Registration statute was facially constitutional as applied to defendant who was charged with failing to register as a sexual predator, as determined by *Milks v. State* and *Connecticut Department of Public Safety v. Doe*; defendant claimed that statute, as applied, was unconstitutional as it was vague and violated his equal protection rights, including the right to travel without having a permanent or temporary residence. Registration statute was facially constitutional as applied to defendant who was charged with failing to register as a sexual predator, as determined by *Milks v. State* and *Connecticut Department of Public Safety v. Doe*; defendant claimed that statute, as applied, was unconstitutional as it was vague and violated his equal protection rights, including the right to travel without having a permanent or temporary residence.

Miller v. State, 33 Fla. L. Weekly D79 (Fla. 5th DCA 2008):

Defendant argued that the failure to register statute violates his right to equal protection by requiring him to register with the Florida Sex Offender Registry as a result of an offense he committed in West Virginia in 1994, while exempting similarly-situated Florida sex offenders from the registration requirement.

The court ruled statute requiring sexual offender to report in person at driver's license office did not violate equal protection; challenged statute applied to all similarly situated persons, did not intentionally discriminate against sex offender alone, and passed rational basis scrutiny.

Smith v. State, 968 So.2d 1054 (Fla. 5th DCA 2007):

Failure to register as a sex offender is a general intent crime, requiring knowledge of a duty to register.

Offense of failure to register as a sex offender does not require that defendant subjectively intended to violate the governing statute.

Hughes v. State, 967 So.2d 968 (4th DCA 2007):

“Petitioner seeks mandamus relief to require the trial judge to remove the designation of petitioner as a sexual offender as the judge originally ordered at sentencing. Since petitioner was convicted of an offense for which sexual offender designation is mandatory, the trial court had no authority to exempt a qualifying person from such designation. § 775.24, Fla. Stat. (2003). Mandamus relief is available only to require performance of legally authorized acts and thus cannot be invoked in this case.”

McMann v. State, 32 Fla. L. Weekly D1027 (Fla. 1st DCA 2007):

Charging document's citation to wrong reporting statute did not mislead sex offender to his prejudice as to warrant dismissal of charge of failing to report every six months to county sheriff's office; cited statute and intended statute had same reporting requirements and contained identical language, and State included language of correct statute in charging documents.

Discussion: Since the defendant was on probation, he should have been charged under F.S. 944.607, but the State charged him under F.S. 943.0435, which was technically incorrect. The court let it slide this time, but be careful when making this charging distinction.

Millan v. State, 32 Fla. L. Weekly D965 (Fla. 5th DCA 2007):

“The State filed an information charging Appellant with failure of a sexual offender to report a change in residence pursuant to subsections 943.0435(4) and 943.0435(9), Florida Statutes (2004). It is undisputed, however, that, although

Appellant is a sexual offender, he is also a sexual predator. Because section 943.0435, by its express terms, “does not apply to a sexual offender who is also a sexual predator,” Appellant cannot be convicted of the crime with which he was charged, and the trial court erred when it denied Appellant's motion for judgment of acquittal.”

Bach v. State, 32 Fla. L. Weekly D662 (Fla. 4th DCA 2007):

Defendant's postconviction claim of affirmative misadvice could not be raised for the first time in motion for rehearing of the denial of his motion for postconviction relief, which alleged that his designation as a sexual predator after being sentenced for violation of probation breached his plea agreement.

Defendant's designation as a sexual predator several years after he was sentenced for violation of his probation did not breach defendant's original plea agreement, which provided for designation as a sexual offender; violation of probation allowed trial court to impose any sentence it could have lawfully imposed before placing him on probation, and law at time of defendant's crimes required his designation as a sexual predator based on his qualifying convictions.

Boyer v. State, 32 Fla. L. Weekly D122 (Fla. 1st DCA 2006):

Defendant may not challenge designation as sexual predator in post conviction motion, but must instead challenge designation in separate civil suit seeking injunctive or declaratory relief.

Sexual predator designation is neither a punishment nor a sentence, and does not render a sentence illegal as term in used in rule 3.800(a).

Conflict certified.

Ealum v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D3104 (Fla. 1st DCA 2006):

Absence of evidence that defendant, who pled nolo contendere to three counts of the second-degree felony of lewd or lascivious exhibition, had a prior conviction for one of the crimes specified in sexual predator statute precluded defendant's designation as a sexual predator, even though defendant did not raise the issue in the trial court; defendant had no opportunity to raise the issue, since order of designation was entered same day State filed motion seeking the designation, and trial court never made a determination of whether defendant had prior qualifying convictions.

Horton v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D3147 (Fla. 2d DCA 2006):

Probative value of evidence of defendant's prior conviction for failure of a sex offender to report a change of address was sufficiently outweighed by danger of unfair prejudice in prosecution for same offense; while state was required to show that defendant had notice of the duty to register, notice element was not a disputed issue at trial because defendant was not asserting, and could not assert lack of notice as a defense, and it was undisputed that state had available other less prejudicial evidence that could have satisfied the notice element.

Discussion: The opinion does not discuss what defense/excuse the defendant actually used in the case, but that would have been helpful to put this ruling in perspective. For instance, if the defendant simply said he forgot to register and it was an honest mistake, his prior conviction for the same offense may have been relevant to rebut this claim. The lesson of this case is that we cannot use a prior conviction for failing to register to prove the defendant's knowledge when it is an undisputed element. If you want to enter such evidence, try to find a different relevance and make sure the judge analyzes it pursuant to 90.403 probative vs. prejudice analysis.

Turner v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D2332 (Fla. 5th DCA 2006):

Defendant adjudicated guilty in Minnesota of offense comparable to Florida's lewd and lascivious battery statute and who was required to register as sex offender in Minnesota was required to register as sex offender in Florida.

Statute extending scope of sex offenders subject to registration requirement to those designated as such in other state and subject to registration in that state did not violate equal protection, but was rationally related to legislature's intent to include Florida residents who had been designated sex offenders by other state.

Discussion: The defendant was adjudicated delinquent for committing the equivalent of a lewd battery in Minnesota. Under Minnesota law, juvenile adjudications require registration. In Florida they don't. Even though the defendant would not be required to register if his conviction was in Florida, he still has to register by virtue of his requirements in Minnesota. Keep in mind, that in this situation, simply introducing his certified judgments would not suffice. You would have to introduce proof of his registration requirement instead.

Carter v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D2333 (Fla. 5th DCA 2006):

Individual who pled nolo contendere to charges of sexual assault of a child in Texas qualified as a "sexual offender," under statute defining sexual offenders for purposes of registration requirement, although adjudication was withheld;

“convicted” was defined to mean determination of guilt, regardless of whether adjudication was withheld, offense was virtually identical to the charge of sexual battery, and he was released from his sanction after applying for early termination of his probation.

Saintelien v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D2272 (Fla. 4th DCA 2006):

Challenge to sexual predator designation not properly raised in post conviction motion and should be raised in civil proceeding. *Conflict certified (conflict with 2nd and 5th)*

McCoy v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D2226 (Fla. 4th DCA 2006):

Defendant who had been convicted of first-degree sexual assault in Colorado was required to register with driver's license office, under statute requiring sex offenders to register within 48 hours of changing address, even though he was not designated a sexually violent predator; if defendant lived in Colorado, he would have been required to register there, and defendant was not designated a sexually violent predator in Colorado only because his conviction predated the effective date of the sexually violent predator statute.

Lieble v. State, 933 So.2d 119 (Fla. 5th DCA 206):

Crime of failure to register as sex offender was continuing in nature, and thus, three-year statute of limitations period began when police learned of defendant's violation, rather than when defendant obtained driver's license in state; express statutory language created continuing duty to register, which evinced intent to treat failure to register as continuing offense, legislature expressly recognized that sex offenders presented ongoing danger to society, and failure to register met traditional definition of continuing crime, which was commonly defined as offense marked by continuing duty in defendant to do an act which he fails to do.

Butler v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D845 (Fla. 4th DCA 2006):

Sexual predator statute was not unconstitutional burden on right to travel.

Irrebuttable presumption of dangerousness in sexual predator statute was not unconstitutional; although it could be that some persons designated sexual predators would not pose potential threat to society, there was substantial likelihood of recidivism, and society had right to protect its citizens, particularly its children, from such individuals.

Mortimer v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D856 (Fla. 4th DCA 2006):

Defendant's single-subject attack on statutory registration and reporting requirements for sexual offenders did not fit within the identified uses for habeas corpus relief, thus precluding defendant's habeas petition, where defendant was not in custody and failed to show that he was being illegally restrained of his liberty or that he had no other adequate legal remedy.

Habeas corpus does not lie where the petitioner has other adequate remedies at law.

Besong v. State, 31 Fla. L. Weekly D776 (Fla. 2d DCA 2006):

King v. State in which District Court of Appeal receded from *Angell v. State* in holding that criminal procedural rule governing motions to correct, reduce, or modify sentences was available to correct an erroneous sexual predator designation applied retroactively to defendant's case that was pending direct review and not yet final.

Shepherd v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D2492 (Fla. 2d DCA 2005):

Trial court lacked jurisdiction to amend sentence and designate defendant a sexual predator while case was pending appeal; sexual predator designation was imposed upon State's motion, following defendant's molestation conviction, but not until trial court had already sentenced defendant and classified him as a sexual offender, and defendant had filed notice of appeal.

Delarosa v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D2400 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2005):

Defendant's guilty plea to unlawful sex with a minor was not rendered involuntary due to lack of advisement on application of sexual offender or sexual predator laws; designation as sexual offender or sexual predator was collateral, not direct, consequence of guilty plea about which defendant did not have to be advised.

Defendant's guilty plea to unlawful sex with a minor was not rendered involuntary due to lack of warning that Department of Corrections's rules on visitation might preclude him from visiting with his minor son; rules on visitation had no effect on range of defendant's punishment and, thus, did not constitute direct consequence of guilty plea.

King v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D2297 (Fla. 2d DCA 2005):

A sexual predator designation (1) may be imposed or modified after sentencing without regard to time limits established in rule regarding reduction and modification of sentences; (2) may be directly appealed as a portion of an

unlawful or illegal sentence; (3) may be directly appealed under rule governing appeals of orders entered after final judgment if it is entered after the time to appeal the judgment and sentence has expired; (4) may be challenged under rule governing motions to correct sentencing errors in order to preserve issue for direct appeal; and (5) may be challenged like a sentencing issue by postconviction motions to correct, vacate or set aside sentence.

A defendant should not file any civil motion or proceeding to challenge a sexual predator designation.

Moore v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D2133 (Fla. 4th DCA 2005):

Defendant's motion contesting his post-conviction adjudication and sentence for failure to register as a sexual predator on grounds of involuntary plea, filed pursuant to rule applying to motions to withdraw pleas filed within thirty days after rendition of sentencing, was untimely, as it was filed almost three years after his sentencing, and therefore, summary denial of motion was warranted, without prejudice to file amended, verified motion for post-conviction relief.

Sheppard v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D1853 (Fla. 2d DCA 2005):

Designation of defendant as a sexual predator following his conviction for sexual battery did not violate double jeopardy, even if employment restrictions applicable to sexual predators were applied to defendant prospectively; defendant did not allege a retroactive application of the statute governing such employment restrictions, did not allege that he was denied employment in a specified capacity, and did not allege that he was charged with a third-degree felony for obtaining employment in violation of the restrictions.

Jackson v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D518 (Fla. 2d DCA 2005):

Motion court's failure to address merits of adjudicated sexual predator's motion for declaratory judgment, challenging his adjudication, based upon fact that petitioner had already raised identical issue in petition for post-conviction relief, was abuse of discretion, where appellate affirmance of denial of post-conviction relief was without prejudice to his right to seek further civil relief.

Moran v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2775 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual predator registration act does not violate defendant's procedural due process rights.

West v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2774 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Claim that trial court erred by allowing defendant to plead to charge of failing to register when it was undisputed that he lacked knowledge that he was required to register not preserved where defendant did not reserve right to appeal legally dispositive issue upon entering nolo contendere plea.

Cabrera v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2243 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Allegedly erroneous sexual predator designation is sentencing error that must be properly preserved for review. Error is not reviewable on appeal where defendant did not object at sentencing or file rule 3.800(b) motion. *Conflict certified*

Hines v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1910 (Fla. 4th DCA 2004):

Evidence that probation officer was unable to locate defendant at his registered residence after five attempts during a thirty-six hour period was insufficient to prove that defendant permanently or temporarily changed his residence pursuant to sexual offender registration statute.

Discussion: Keep this case in mind when your officer files a failure to register case because he went by the defendant's house and it did not look like anyone was living there.

State v. Bouchillon, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1840 (Fla. 4th DCA 2004):

Designation as a youthful offender does not preclude sentencing under Sexual Predator Act.

Sigler v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1626 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual predator registration statute is no a violation of procedural due process.

Metaxotos v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1599 (Fla. 4th DCA 2004):

Automatic designation as sexual predator without hearing on actual risk of future offenses does not violate procedural due process rights.

Sanchez v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1588 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2004):

Error to designate defendant as sexual predator where no proof of a qualifying prior offense was introduced prior to the designation.

Discussion: A very brief opinion.

State v. Robinson, 29 Fla. L. Weekly S112 (Fla. 2004):

Sexual Predators Act is unconstitutional as applied to a defendant whose crime indisputably did not contain a sexual element.

Application of Act to defendant who was convicted of kidnapping of a minor of whom he was not the parent was a violation of substantive due process where the crime was committed without any sexual motivation or purpose.

State v. Mounce, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D402 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Error to conclude that defendant was not required to re-register as sexual offender when he changed his address because his driver's license was not then subject to renewal. Change of residence alone is sufficient to trigger registration requirements of section 943.0435(4).

State v. Giorgetti, 29 Fla. L. Weekly S 95 (Fla. 2004):

Before a sexual offender may be held criminally liable for failing to register, state must prove that he was aware of a registration requirement.

Giddens v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D140 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Crime of failure to register change of address has knowledge element. Question certified

Discussion: The defendant in this case was illiterate and had an IQ of 69. The trial court made a finding that the defendant did not intentionally fail to register because of his lack of mental ability to understand the requirement of filing.

DeJesus v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2845 (Fla. 4th DCA 2003):

Case holding that sexual offender statute was inapplicable to juvenile proceedings does not apply to instant case involving youthful offender sentence, which is an adult sentence.

Court rejects contention that, because registration is not required until 48 hours after release from supervision defendant does not have to register until he is released from probation. Term "release" in statute is for offenders serving prison time, not for those on probation.

Therrien v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2704 (Fla. 1st DCA 2003):

Florida Sexual Predator Act does not violate separation of powers or procedural due process requirements and is constitutional.

Retroactive application of 1998 amendment to Act, which expands sexual predator criteria, to include attempted sexual battery as a qualifying felony and permit sexual predator status without a predicate conviction, is constitutionally permissible because statute does not violate procedural due process clauses of state and federal constitutions. *Question certified.*

Maceo v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2467 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2003):

Conviction of life felony of armed kidnapping did not qualify defendant for designation as sexual predator where victim was not a minor.

Convictions of sexual battery did not qualify defendant for designation as a sexual predator where offenses were second degree felonies.

Defendant did not qualify for designation as sexual predator where he had not previously been convicted of, pled nolo or guilty to, or been found to have committed any of the enumerated prior offenses which would qualify him for classification as a sexual predator.

Kidd v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2290 (Fla. 5th DCA 2003):

Although defense counsel failed to join or adopt defendant's pro se motion in which this issue was raised., or to file motion on his own, appellate court declines to treat pro se motion, which was filed while defendant was represented by counsel, as a legal nullity *because how a defendant seeking to challenge sexual predator designation should proceed has yet to be clarified under rules or case law.*

Discussion: The primary point of interest in this case is the court's acknowledgement that it is not clear whether a defendant needs to challenge a predator designation in civil or criminal court.

Coblentz v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2282 (Fla. 2d DCA 2003):

Gross abuse of discretion to fail to address merits of rule 1.540(b) motion seeking relief from judgment designating defendant a sexual predator, which defendant had been encouraged to file after prior order denying motion to correct illegal sentence was affirmed on appeal.

Remand for attachment of documentation which demonstrates that defendant qualifies for treatment as a sexual predator or for hearing to determine whether defendant qualifies for such treatment.

Sanders v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D1927 (Fla. 5th DCA 2003):

Record insufficient for court to make determination of whether defendant was illegally designated as sexual predator.

Although issue has never been considered on merits, in part for reasons that relate to a quirk of law and in part due to defendant's failure to appeal after his original sentencing, if sexual predator designation is not legal, there may be a procedural avenue available to defendant, such as a belated appeal.

Walker v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D1839 (Fla. 5th DCA 2003):

Sexual predator statute applied to defendant who pled guilty to lewd or lascivious molestation of child and lewd or lascivious exhibition, wherein the victim was defendant's minor child.

Portion of statute limiting sexual predator designation to felonies where the victim is a minor and the defendant is not the victim's parent applies only when defendant is convicted of violating chapter 787.

State v. Erickson, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D1562 (Fla. 5th DCA 2003):

Abuse of discretion to deny motion to amend information where state originally charged defendant with failure to register as a sexual offender as required by section 943.0435, and after receiving copies of documents pertaining to defendant's criminal history in other states, state sought to amend information pretrial to charge defendant with failure to register as sexual predator, as required by same statute.

Defendant could not have been prejudiced by proposed amendment because he would have been required to abide by registration requirements of 943.0435 whether he qualified as sexual offender as originally charged or as sexual predator under 775.21.

Discussion: These issues were addressed at a c(4) motion to dismiss. The court gives us some good language regarding the fact that an information can be amended even in the middle of trial if there is no prejudice. The most intriguing part of this opinion, however, is the footnote 1 where the court explains that recent case law regarding the qualifying dates in the statutes. Specifically, the court notes, "Since the courts of Florida have uniformly recognized that the Florida Sexual Predators Act is regulatory in nature and does not constitute punishment subject to constitutional ex post facto challenges, the need for a qualifying offense date with the Act is questionable." The court then requests the

legislature to reconsider whether the qualifying dates of October 1, 1993 and October 1, 1997 still need to be in the statute. The court believes that the inclusion of these dates in the statute may preclude some individuals who should be declared sexual predators from having to do so.

Nicholson v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D1352 (Fla. 5th DCA 2003):

Defendant's conviction for second degree felony lewd or lascivious molestation did not qualify him as a sexual predator.

Convictions for two separate offenses which occurred at same time and were scored on same scoresheet do not qualify defendant for sentencing as sexual predator.

Nichols v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D1212 (Fla. 5th DCA 2003):

Error to enter written order finding that defendant was sexual predator without hearing, upon proper notice to defendant.

Where defendant was convicted of lewd and lascivious assault on child under age 16 in violation of F.S. 800.04, he must have a previous conviction of certain enumerated offenses in order for sexual predator designation to apply, and trial court made no determination regarding whether defendant had any qualifying previous convictions.

Remand for hearing, upon proper notice, to allow state to demonstrate by competent evidence that defendant is qualified for designation and to allow defendant to contest designation.

Brittner v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D943 (Fla. 1st DCA 2003):

Abuse of discretion to deny rule 1.540 motion for relief from judgment where defendant did not timely receive copy of trial court's order designating him a sexual predator and motion was filed within one year of receipt of judge's letter informing him of entry of sexual predator designation order.

Johnson v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D940 (Fla. 1st DCA 2003):

Where trial court accepted defendant's stipulation that he was a sexual offender without disclosing to the jury any further details about the nature of his offenses, court did not err in rejecting defendant's proposed jury instruction that would "sanitize" the reference to defendant as a "sexual offender" by referring to him instead as a "felony offender."

Gunn v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D878 (Fla. 2d DCA 2003):

Evidentiary hearing required on motion to withdraw guilty plea in which defendant alleged that counsel misadvised him that he would not be registered as a sexual offender if he entered plea.

Affirmative misadvice about a collateral consequence of a plea provides a basis on which to withdraw a plea.

Because withdrawing his plea, defendant is entitled to appointment of conflict free counsel for purpose of evidentiary hearing on motion to withdraw plea.

State v. Partlow, 28 Fla. L. Weekly S148 (Fla. 2003):

After being sentenced for sexual offense pursuant to guilty or nolo contendere plea, defendant is not entitled to withdraw plea as involuntary because he was not informed of sexual offender registration requirement.

Sexual offender registration requirement is a collateral consequence of the plea, and therefore failure to inform defendant of the requirement before he entered the plea does not render his plea involuntary.

Garcia v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D2261 (Fla. 2d DCA 2002):

Error to designate defendant as sexual predator where defendant was convicted of committing a lewd and lascivious act, a second-degree felony, and did not have previous conviction of any of the offenses enumerated in statute.

Welch v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D1856 (Fla. 2d DCA 2002):

The defendant was convicted for a sexual offense in Polk County and subsequently registered as a sexual offender in that county. He later moved to Manatee County and was arrested for failure to register. He was prosecuted in Polk county. The defendant argues that F.S. 775.21(6)(g), which allows the State to prosecute in numerous jurisdictions runs afoul of the Florida Constitution which states that one must be charged in the county in which the offense occurred. The court said it was not inclined to intervene prior to the defendant's conviction for failure to register, but hinted that this could be a problem

Discussion: This case could present a logistical problem for us. If a predator sweep is made in our county and the defendant is not at his registered address, charging him for failure to register may be inappropriate if he has actually moved to a new jurisdiction. There are several ways to get around this problem, such as

issuing a warrant and deferring eventual prosecution to the later jurisdiction, but it is certainly an issue to keep in mind.

Giorgetti v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D1663 (Fla. 4th DCA 2002): *on motion for rehearing*

Because violation of registration statutes is a felony, absent express contrary intent by legislature, court must presume that *mens rea* is an element of the crime.

Trial court erred in giving special instruction absolving state of burden to prove guilty knowledge or scienter or *mens rea* in prosecution for criminal violation of sexual offender registration statutes.

Question certified: Does *Chicone* apply to the crime created by the sexual offender registration statutes and thus compel the court to presume a scienter or *mens rea* requirement even though the statutory text fails to contain an explicit requirement of such guilty knowledge? -- Silence of defendant -- Error to admit testimony of arresting officer to the effect that when defendant was informed that he was being arrested for failing to register his new address, defendant did not respond.

State v. Mikelarry Colon, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D1541 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2002):

Sexual predator statute does not apply to juveniles who have been charged as adults but sentenced to juvenile sanctions.

Beard v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D1516 (Fla. 2d DCA 2002):

Defendant precluded from raising issue concerning sexual predator designation where issue was argued, considered, and rejected in prior appeal.

State v. J.M., 27 Fla. L. Weekly S621 (Fla. 2002):

Juveniles who may be charged as adults, but are actually adjudicated as delinquents, do not stand criminally convicted for purpose of designation as sexual predator under Florida Sexual Predators Act.

Under plain reading of controlling statutes, an adjudication of delinquency does not fall under definition of a felony criminal conviction required under Act, and, thus, an adjudication of delinquency does not trigger sexual predator status provision of Predator Act.

Legislature's enactment of separate and specific notification and registration scheme for juvenile sexual offenders clearly implies Legislature's intent not to

subject juveniles who are adjudicated delinquent to designation under adult Predator Act.

Because Predator Act does not expressly include adjudications of delinquency as convictions, language of section 985.233 excluding juvenile adjudications from being considered criminal convictions controls.

Brady v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D1338 (Fla. 2d DCA 2002):

An order designating a defendant a sexual predator is subject to direct appeal.

The trial court erred because a civil designation as a sexual predator was not authorized by section 775.21(4)(c).

Gonzalez v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D531 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2002):

Trial court properly declared defendant, who committed crime in 1995, a sexual predator under the 1997 Act because the Act's notification requirements are regulatory and procedural and do not constitute punishment, hence their modification cannot violate the ex post facto clause.

Smeltz v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D202 (Fla. 2d DCA 2002):

Where trial court granted defendant's petition for relief from designation as sexual predator, and struck the designation, court was without jurisdiction to thereafter deny the petition on the procedural ground that a sexual predator designation is neither a sentence nor a punishment and the rules of criminal procedure do not apply to it.

Trial court had jurisdiction pursuant to civil rule 1.540 to entertain defendant's petition, and when court rendered an order granting the requested relief its jurisdiction over the matter terminated.

Discussion: The defendant was erroneously designated a sexual predator when he was actually a sexual offender. The court indicates that a challenge to this designation is technically a civil matter to be brought pursuant to Civil Rule of Procedure 1.540. The court noted, however, that the criminal judge could invoke jurisdiction under the civil rule.

Jackson v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D7 (Fla. 2d DCA 2002):

Error to find violation of statute requiring sexual offenders to register with Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles when renewing driver's

licenses where defendant's driver's license was not renewed, but instead was automatically reinstated after he paid traffic fines.

Although defendant was designated sexual predator, and statute cited by state pertained to sexual offenders, under either statute registration requirement is triggered by renewal of driver's license.

Raines v. State, 805 So.2d 999 (Fla. 4th DCA 2001):

Section 943.0435, Florida Statutes (2000), violates equal protection as to those defendants convicted of false imprisonment where it is undisputed that the offense was committed without any sexual motivation. Question certified

Sexual offender classification which includes those who have not committed a sexually-related crime is not rationally related to legitimate government interest.

Sexual offender statute improperly differentiates between non-parent convicted of committing a non-sexual offense against a child, such as simple battery, and a non-parent convicted of committing a non-sexual kidnapping or false imprisonment of a child.

Judgment and sentence resulting from defendant's plea to charge of failure to report within 48 hours of changing residential address, while being a sex offender, and plea to violating probation based upon that substantive offense reversed.

Jackson v. State, 801 So.2d 212 (Fla. 2d DCA 2001):

Claim that trial court erred in designating defendant as sexual predator because he did not qualify for such treatment due to date of prior offense may not be raised pursuant to either rule 3.800 or 3.850.

Denial of relief affirmed without prejudice to right to pursue any available civil remedies.

Robinson v. State, 26 Fla. L. Weekly D2642 (Fla. 4th DCA 2001):

Sexual predator statute is unconstitutional as applied to defendant who was convicted of carjacking and kidnapping a baby girl but who had not engaged in any sexual act upon or in presence of child. Designation is reversed.

T.R.B. v. State, 26 Fla. L. Weekly D2476 (Fla. 1st DCA 2001):

Error to declare juvenile to be a sexual predator where juvenile was prosecuted as an adult, but was given juvenile sanctions.

Adjudication of delinquency cannot be deemed a conviction for purposes of sexual predator statute.

Question certified.

Kelly v. State, 26 Fla. L. Weekly D2005 (Fla. 5th DCA 2001):

Florida Sexual Predators Act is mandatory and affords no discretion to trial court to designate an individual a sexual predator if statutory criteria are met. Mandatory application of the Act by the courts does not offend the separation of powers provisions of Florida Constitution.

J.M. v State, 26 Fla. L. Weekly D1156 (Fla. 1st DCA 2001):

Error to declare juvenile to be a sexual predator where juvenile has been adjudicated delinquent for committing a violation of law rather than convicted.

Nelson v. State, 26 Fla. L. Weekly D796 (Fla. 1st DCA 2001):

Defendant not entitled to withdrawal of plea on ground that he was not informed that upon conviction he would be designated as a sexual predator or sexual offender.

Reporting requirements in case of sexual predators or sexual offenders are collateral consequences that are not compelled to be disclosed to defendant before acceptance of plea.

Defendant waived any objection to condition of probation prohibiting him from living or having unsupervised contact with minors within 1000 feet of places where children congregate, where defendant agreed to condition in plea agreement.

Graham v. State, 26 Fla. L. Weekly D617 (Fla. 2d DCA 2001):

Abuse of discretion for trial court to fail to allow defendant to withdraw plea that was based on defense counsel's mistaken advice that defendant's photo would not be placed on Internet.

Defendant is entitled as matter of right to withdraw plea at any time prior to sentencing on showing of good cause.

While counsel is not required to warn a defendant about collateral consequences of a plea, if collateral matters are discussed and counsel's advice is "measurable deficient," then a plea based on that advice could be involuntary.

Donovan v. State, 26 Fla. L. Weekly D173 (Fla. 5th DCA 2001):

No error in denying relief on claim that plea would not have been entered if defendant had known that he would be required to report to FDLE as convicted sex offender.

Sexual offender reporting requirement is collateral consequence of plea.

Sexual offender statute is regulatory in nature and does not violate ex post facto clause.

Discussion: This is another appellate attempt to close the Pandora's Box opened by the 4th DCA in the Wiita opinion. This case specifically distinguished the facts from those in Wiita to justify its conclusion.

Johnson v. State, 25 Fla. L. Weekly D2761 (Fla. 5th DCA 2000):

Trial court properly ruled that statutes containing designation, registration, and community notification requirements for sexual offenders are not unconstitutional. Statutes do not violate privacy or due process rights of offenders.

Discussion: The appellate court complemented and adopted the order of the trial judge to form this opinion. Good job Judge Briese.

Coblentz v. State, 775 So.2d 359 (Fla. 2d DCA 2000):

Where defendant entered into voluntary nolo contendere plea in criminal case, and his sentence was lawful, defendant has no basis for appeal in his criminal case from order declaring defendant to be a sexual predator.

Defendant should seek civil remedy for his claim that he does not qualify as sexual predator.

Grumet v. State, 25 Fla. L. Weekly D2323 (Fla. 4th DCA September 27, 2000):

Requirement that sexual offenders register within 48 hours with DHSMV is required by statute, therefore defendant is charged with constructive notice of its application regardless of trial court's failure to orally pronounce condition at sentencing.

State's failure to cite applicable statute in violation of probation affidavit did not undermine validity of affidavit or violate defendant's' due process rights.

Defendant had actual notice that statute applied to his status as sexual offender and constructive notice of registration requirement, and acknowledged by his signature on sex offender registration form that he understood he had to comply with DHSMV registration requirement.

State v. Stapleton, 764 So.2d 886 (Fla. 4th DCA 2000):

No error in granting motion to withdraw plea to offense of lewd assault, in which defendant alleged he was not informed that as a convicted sex offender, he would have to report to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, that he was not advised of "Jimmy Ryce Act," which went into effect three days before plea was entered and that he would not have entered plea had he known of reporting requirements or Jimmy Ryce Act with its potential exposure to indefinite commitment for treatment following his prison sentence.

Anderson v. State, 25 Fla. L. Weekly D1205 (Fla. 2d DCA May 17, 2000):

Florida Sexual Predator Act does not apply to defendant whose underlying offense took place before statute's effective date of October 1, 1993.

State v. Curtin, 764 So.2d 645 (Fla. 1st DCA 2000):

Trial court departed from the essential requirements of law when it denied state's motion to declare defendant a sexual predator, where defendant met statutory criteria for such designation.

Where defendant was convicted of sexual battery on physically helpless victim, first degree felony, violation of Chapter 794, an offense was committed on or after October 1, 1996, trial court was required to make finding sexual predator status.

Leopold v. State, 756 So.2d 203 (Fla. 2d DCA 2000):

No error in designating defendant as sexual predator. Error to require hearing pursuant to version of Florida Sexual Predator's Act which does not apply to Defendant.

Discussion: This case does not give any significant facts to assist in research purposes.

Oce v. State, 742 So.2d 464 (Fla. 3rd DCA 1999):

Trial court properly found that defendant was not entitled to have his plea set aside on the ground that counsel and court failed to inform him of the registration and community and public notification requirements of his designation as a sexual predator.

Error in not complying with statutory notification requirements when designating defendant as sexual predator should have been brought to trial court's attention by objection in order to preserve issue for appellate review.

Discussion: It is important to note a footnote to this case which distinguishes this case from another important appellate opinion:

FN2. State v. Wiita, No. 98-2248 (Fla. 4th DCA June 30, 1999), brought to our attention by the State, in no way conflicts with our analysis. The statute at issue in Wiita was retroactive in nature and was enacted subsequent to the defendant's plea agreement. The Fourth District held that under the particular facts in Wiita resulting in his plea agreement, such as the defendant's express wishes to avoid publicity for himself and his family, application of the retroactive statute was manifestly unjust.

Kelly v. State, 745 So.2d 1126 (Fla. 1st DCA 1999):

Error to designate defendant as sexual predator for offenses which occurred prior to October 1, 1993.

Quinn v. State, 751 So.2d 627 (Fla. 4th DCA 1999):

No merit to claim that failure to register a sex offender statute is facially unconstitutional because it fails to contain scienter or guilty knowledge element.

State v. Colley, 744 So.2d 1172 (Fla. 2d DCA 1999):

Defendant who entered nolo contendere plea to Attempted Sexual Battery While Armed With Dangerous Weapon, a first degree felony, met criteria for sexual predator designation.

Neither fact that offense was an attempt or fact the offense was first degree felony only because it was reclassified under section 775.04 based on the use of a dangerous weapon prevents designation of sexual predator.

Hartline v. State, 743 So.2d 90 (Fla. 5th DCA 1999):

Where defendant was convicted of indecent assault upon a child by commission of an act defined as sexual battery, trial court erred in reclassifying convictions from second degree felony to first degree felony on the ground that there were multiple perpetrators. Enhancement statute does not apply to section 800.04(3).

Error to declare defendant sexual predator based on first degree felony conviction for sexual battery on child with multiple perpetrators.

Burnsed v. State, 743 So.2d 139 (Fla. 2d DCA 1999):

Defendant was charged with sexual battery on a child and indecent assault for offenses occurring between July 1991 and July 1994. Defendant pled guilty, the state and defense stipulated that he was pleading guilty to offenses which occurred in July 1991. Since the stipulated offense occurred prior to October 1, 1993, the court erred in declaring the Defendant a sexual predator. The stipulation by the parties as to the date was binding.

Wade v. State, 728 So.2d 284 (Fla. 2d DCA 1999):

Error to designate defendant as sexual predator where offenses were committed prior to effective date of Sexual Predators Act.

Sexual predator designation is neither a sentence nor a punishment, and relief from designation would not be available under 3.800.

State v. Wiita, 744 So.2d 1232 (Fla. 4th DCA 1999):

Where defendant had entered guilty plea to lewd assault and sexual activity with a child pursuant to plea agreement because of desire to avoid stress and publicity of jury trial, and defendant's name and photograph were posted on Internet as sexual offender under provisions of statute which was enacted six years later, trial court did not abuse discretion in finding that plea was not freely and voluntarily entered, and an entering order granting defendant's motion to vacate sentence. Manifest injustice occurred because defendant gave up right to jury trial to avoid publicity an stress, yet was subjected to publicity and stress he wanted to avoid by statute enacted six years after plea agreement was entered into.

Discussion: The appellate court noted that the prosecutor who argued for the state on the motion to vacate sentence did not introduce the plea colloquy transcript from the original plea to the crime. The implication here is that if the original plea colloquy established an adequate record, the case may have had a different result.

State v. Townsend, 728 So.2d 289 (Fla. 2d DCA 1999):

An attempt can be a qualifying offense for sexual predator designation.

LaMonica v. State, 732 So.2d 1175 (Fla. 4th DCA 1999):

Defendant was entitled to evidentiary hearing on claim raised in his motion for postconviction relief, alleging that his no contest plea to lewd assault charge was involuntary; defendant's motion related a statement by defense counsel that could be construed as affirmative misinformation about consequences of plea.

Reporting requirements of the Sexual Offender Act were a collateral consequence which did not have to be disclosed before defendant's no contest plea to lewd assault charge was accepted.

Beaton v. State, 732 So.2d 5 (Fla. 4th DCA 1999):

Community and public notification requirements of 1996 version of Sexual Predators Act are not applicable to defendant whose offenses were committed between October 1, 1993, and October 1, 1995. Portions of order referencing statute's notice requirements to be stricken.

Pisarri v. State, 724 So.2d 635 (Fla. 5th DCA 1999):

Where trial court entered written order declaring defendant a sexual predator, FDLE was required to place defendant's name on its list of sexual predators. If trial court erroneously found defendant to be a sexual predator, appeal from that order would have been appropriate remedy rather than mandamus petition to compel FDLE to remove name from list.

Fact that 13 months intervened between sentencing and court's determination that defendant was sexual predator would not, in and of itself, make that finding erroneous.

Clark v. State, 720 So.2d 1097 (Fla. 2d DCA 1998):

Trial court had jurisdiction to hear motion for post conviction relief attacking conviction of capital sexual battery on ground of ineffective assistance of counsel although appeal was pending from order designating defendant as sexual predator. Error to deny motion on ground of lack of jurisdiction.

Jones v. State, 718 So.2d 1286 (Fla. 5th DCA 1998):

Any error in connection with sexual predator classification not ripe for review where trial court reserved jurisdiction to declare defendant a sexual predator, but did not do so.

Refusal to give lesser included offense instruction of committing unnatural and lascivious act in conjunction with charge on lewd and lascivious assault on child was not preserved for appellate review, where defense counsel abandoned request for instruction and agreed to proposed instructions that included as lesser offenses attempt, battery and assault.

Thomas v. State, 716 So.2d 789 (Fla. 4th DCA 1998): Julian

Registration requirement of Florida Sexual Predators Act does not constitute double jeopardy.

No error in granting state's motion to declare defendant sexual predator in absence of defendant.

Johnson v. State, 716 So.2d 332 (Fla. 2d DCA 1998):

Defendant who entered guilty plea to attempted sexual battery on child under twelve years of age, a first-degree felony, was properly classified as a sexual predator. No merit to defense claim that sexual predator designation was inapplicable because it was not a completed crime.

Romano v. State, 718 So.2d 283 (Fla. 4th DCA 1998):

Even if Division of Statutory Revision improperly modified sexual battery statute in publishing session law in Florida Statutes, error was cured when legislature adopted published Florida Statutes as the official law.

Walker v. State, 718 So.2d 217 (Fla. 4th DCA 1998):

Trial court could properly designate defendant as sexual predator after defendant had been sentenced for current offense.

Burkett v. State, 731 So.2d 695 (Fla. 2d DCA 1998):

Sexual predator designation may be applied where portion of period when offenses were committed was outside period covered by statute and portion of period was inside period covered by statute.

Designation as sexual predator does not violate double jeopardy.

Sexual predator designation is a collateral consequence of plea and need not be orally announced.

No error in designating defendant as sexual predator in defendant's absence.

Angell v. State, 712 So.2d 1132 (Fla. 2d DCA 1998):

Designation of defendant as sexual predator is neither a sentence nor punishment and the Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure do not, in general, apply to this statutory provision

Macias v. State, 708 So.2d 1044 (Fla. 4th DCA 1998):

Post-sentencing designation of defendant as sexual predator did not violate double jeopardy clause.

Collie v. State, 710 So.2d 1000 (Fla. 2d DCA 1998):

- Trial court did not exceed its jurisdiction in designating defendant to be sexual predator more than sixty days after sentencing.
- New substantive provisions in amended statute regarding dissemination of public information and restrictions on employment and volunteer work which were added after commission of offense cannot be applied retrospectively.
- Because retrospective application of section 775.21 for purpose of seeking sexual predator designation did not increase penalty by which defendant's sexual offense was punishable, ex post facto challenge must be denied.
- Pleas bargain was not violated by subsequent sexual predator designation.
- Defendant was on notice that he would be subject to sexual predator classification by its publication in Laws of Florida or Florida Statutes.
- Designating an offender to be sexual predator after he or she has entered plea bargain does not constitute breach of contract because sexual predator designation is not form of punishment.
- Because registration requirements of section 775.21 are not so punitive as to negate legislature's clearly non-punitive intent, application of 1996 act does not violate Double Jeopardy Clauses.
- Argument that sexual predator designation, but itself, infringes on defendant's liberty rights is rejected because sexual predator statute, as applied to defendant, is non-punitive and remedial in nature.
- The only provision in 1996 Act which, if applied retrospectively, would infringe on constitutionally-protected liberty interest is employment restrictions imposed in section 775.21(9)(b).
- Review of 1996 Act does not reveal any deprivations of defendant's due process rights where employment restrictions are not applicable to defendant

because they were not in effect at time he committed his current offense, and defendant has failed to argue on appeal that he is prohibited from pursuing certain employment due to sexual predator designation.

- Procedural due process guarantees of hearing and opportunity to be heard are inapplicable as to defendant.
- Sexual predator proceedings were not criminal or quasi-criminal in nature and defendant had no constitutional right to counsel.

Morris v. State, 707 So.2d 1203 (Fla. 4th DCA 1998):

Where there was proper waiver of counsel at trial, after appropriate inquiry by trial court, trial court was required to renew offer of counsel at hearing on state's motion to have defendant declared a sexual predator, but was not required to go through *Faretta* requirements. No error in proceeding with hearing after defendant rejected renewed offer of counsel.

Thomas v. State, 716 So.2d 789 (Fla. 4th DCA 1997): Julian

Order finding defendant to be sexual predator is appealable as order entered after "finding of guilt," pursuant to rule 9.140(b)(1)(C).

Downs v. State, 700 So.2d 789 (Fla. 2d DCA 1997):

Orders entered pursuant to Sexual Predators Act are subject to direct appeal because such orders are encompassed by Rule 9.140(b)(1)(C).

Appeal challenging order designating defendant as sexual predator dismissed as untimely, because defendant failed to timely file notice of appeal directed to postjudgment order.

Motion to supplement record of appeal from judgment and sentence with transcript of hearing to declare defendant a sexual predator not treated as notice of appeal because it was filed more than 30 days after order was rendered.

State v. Johnson, 693 So.2d 711 (Fla. 4th DCA 1997): (Dimitrouleas)

"We affirm appellant's conviction for sexual battery on a person under the age of 16. We reverse, however, the trial court's decision to declare appellant a sexual predator, as there is no evidence in the record of prior sexual offense."

Branciforte v. State, 678 So.2d 426 (Fla. 2d DCA 1996):

In prosecution for possession of child pornography, condition of probation

requiring registration as a sexual predator stricken because the subject offenses are not within the registration criteria as set forth in statute.

DUE PROCESS CASES:

Cheshire v. State, 32 Fla. L. Weekly D2718 (Fla. 1st DCA 2007):

Trial court violated procedural due process rights of sex offenders by communicating with the Assistant State Attorney, without notice to offenders' counsel, after Department of Corrections sent notice to the court requesting direction on whether offenders should continue to be designated as sexual offenders, or whether they should be designated as sexual predators.

Garcia v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D2112 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2005):

Registration requirements of state Sexual Offender Registration Act did not implicate offender's constitutional right to procedural due process, despite lack of provision therein for hearing to determine whether offender presented danger to public sufficient to require registration, where registration requirement was based upon fact of previous conviction rather than upon current dangerousness.

Hanson v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D1677 (Fla. 5th DCA 2005):

Sexual Predator registration statute does not substantive due process.

Milks v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly S55 (Fla. 2005):

Florida Sexual Predators Act does not violate procedural due process or separation of powers.

Court declines to consider substantive due processes and equal protection challenges to Act which were briefed by parties but not addressed by district courts.

Discussion: This case affirms *Milks v. State*, and reverses *Espindola v. State*.

Braudaway v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D222 (Fla. 2d DCA 2005):

Florida Sexual Predator Act is not unconstitutional. *conflict certified*

Draves v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D139 (Fla. 2d DCA 2005):

Sexual predator designation does not violate procedural due process.
Conflict certified

Moreira v. State, 30 Fla. L. Weekly D163 (Fla. 2d DCA 2005):

Statute under which defendant was designated as sexual predator provided procedural safeguards as to afford him due process.

Genehagan v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2852 (Fla. 1st DCA 2004):

Designation of defendant as sexual predator does not violate procedural due process. *Conflict certified*.

Navarro v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2700 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2004):

No merit to constitutional challenge of sex offender registration act.

Discussion: The court notes that this statute is less intrusive than the sexual predator act and is constitutional even if the predator act is unconstitutional.

Anderson v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2595 (Fla. 2d DCA 2004):

Claim that designation as sexual predator violates right to due process may not be raised pursuant to rule 3.800 or rule 3.850.

Turner v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2437 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Challenge to constitutionality of Act and assertion that substantive due process rights were violated may not be raised for the first time on appeal.

Trial court's designation of defendant as sexual predator is collateral matter and does not constitute fundamental error.

Linderman v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2246 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual Predator Act is constitutional and does not violate defendant's procedural due process rights. *Conflict certified*

Swindle v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D2037 (Fla. 3d DCA 2004):

In the absence of a provision allowing for a hearing to determine whether a defendant presents a danger to the public sufficient to require registration and public notification, Florida Sexual Predators Act Violates due process. Conflict certified.

Discussion: The Third DCA seems to be going it alone on this one. Eventually, the Supreme Court will resolve the conflict among jurisdictions.

Newingham v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1930 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual predator statute does not violate procedural due process.

Moore v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1896 (Fla. 1st DCA 2004):

Sexual Predator act does not violate equal protection requirements.

Johnson v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1563 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual Predator registration statute does not violate procedural due process.

Smith v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1497 (Fla. 4th DCA 2004):

Sexual Predator Act does not deny procedural due process.

Summerall v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1098 (Fla. 2nd DCA 2004):

Sexual predator statute is not unconstitutional as a violation of procedural due process. *Conflict certified.*

Valentin v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1466 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Statute did not violate procedural due process by not providing hearing before classifying defendant as sexual predator. Conflict certified.

Newell v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1429 (Fla. 2d DCA 2004):

Sexual offender registration law is not an unconstitutional denial of due process.

Springer v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1366 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual predator designation did not violate defendant's de process rights.

Discussion: This case provides very little discussion, but simply indicates that the issues were resolved by previous opinions.

Littlefield v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D975 (Fla. 1st DCA 2004):

No merit to claim that section 943.0435, which requires the registration of sex offenders, is unconstitutional on the ground that it denies procedural due process.

Perkins v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D970 (Fla. 1st DCA 2004):

Florida Sexual Predators Act does not violate due process. *conflict certified*

Woodward v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1018 (Fla. 2d DCA 2004):

Sexual Predators Act is not unconstitutional on procedural due process grounds. *conflict certified*

Rickman v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D1058 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual Predator Act does not violate procedural due process because of failure to provide a hearing before classification of a defendant as a sexual predator. Conflict certified.

Smith v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D853 (Fla. 1st DCA 2004):

Statute requiring registration of sexual offenders in not unconstitutional.

No hearing is required before the stigma of asexual offender status is imposed.

Ames v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D617 (Fla. 1st DCA 2004):

No merit to claim that sexual offender statute violates right to due process under article I, section 9, of the Florida Constitution because it does not provide for a hearing prior to designation as a sexual offender.

Because the only relevant consideration for determining whether defendant qualified as a sexual offender was whether he had been convicted of an offense specified in statute, defendant's jury trial on charge of lewd and lascivious battery on child 12 year of age or older but

less than 16, constituted a hearing for purpose of designating defendant as a sexual offender.

Frazier v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D369 (Fla. 1st DCA 2004):

Florida Sexual Predators Act does not deny procedural due process. Conflict certified.

Glenn v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D183 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual Predator Act does not violate substantive or procedural due process.

Miller v. State, 29 Fla. L. Weekly D144 (Fla. 5th DCA 2004):

Sexual Predator Act is constitutional. Conflict with Espindola certified.

Therrien v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2704 (Fla. 1st DCA 2003):

Florida Sexual Predator Act does not violate separation of powers or procedural due process requirements and is constitutional.

Retroactive application of 1998 amendment to Act, which expands sexual predator criteria, to include attempted sexual battery as a qualifying felony and permit sexual predator status without a predicate conviction, is constitutionally permissible because statute does not violate procedural due process clauses of state and federal constitutions. *Question certified.*

White v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2425 (Fla. 4th DCA 2003):

The Sexual Predators Act does not violate due process.

Espindola v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2406 (Fla. 3^d DCA 2003):

Florida Sexual Predator Act's requirement of automatic determination of a defendant as a sexual predator with no bearing on the risk defendant's committing future offense violates procedural due process and the Act is unconstitutional.

Defendant who pled guilty to multiple perpetrator sexual battery and was automatically declared a sexual predator had a liberty interest infringed by the Act's registration and public notification provisions, beyond a mere stigma, which required due process under the Fourteenth Amendment, and

the Act's requirements of automatic determination, in which the trial court has no discretion, afforded the defendant no process at all.

Because the Act specifically provides that sexual predators present an extreme threat to the public safety, the Act's failure to provide for a judicial hearing on the risk of defendant's committing future offenses makes it violative of procedural due process. *Conflict Certified*.

Discussion: This opinion serves to withdraw the court's previous opinion at 28 Fla. L. Weekly D222 and substitute it with this opinion. Basically, this court ruled the statute unconstitutional on other grounds, but the U.S. Supreme Court ruled to the contrary in similar cases. This court then took another shot at the statute from a different angle.

Reyes v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D2131 (Fla. 4th DCA 2003):

Designating individual as sexual offender without evidentiary hearing does not violate procedural due process rights.

Registration requirements of Act do not violate substantive due process rights.

Act does not facially violate separation of powers principles by making sexual predator designation mandatory for all defendants who meet statutory criteria.

Milks v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D1107 (Fla. 2d DCA 2003):

Sexual Predator Act does not violate constitutional principles of separation of powers.

Because reporting requirement of Florida's act are determined solely by a defendant's conviction for a specified crime, the conviction itself is "a fact that a convicted offender already had a procedurally safeguarded opportunity to contest."

Procedural due process does not require hearing to prove defendant's actual dangerousness, because the fact is not relevant to statutory scheme.

Discussion: This court relies on *Connecticut Department of Public Safety v. Doe*, 123 S.Ct. 1160 (2003), in rejecting defendant's constitutional arguments. The court notes that Florida's reporting requirements are similar to those in Connecticut and are therefore covered by the Supreme Court opinion. The court ominously concludes it's opinion by stating,

“The Supreme Court has not determined whether the Connecticut act or ones similar to it violate substantive due process. However, Mr. Milks, like Mr. Doe, has not raised the claim. We therefore affirm the order designating Mr. Milks a sexual predator.”

Espindola v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D222 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2003): *reversed*

Florida Sexual Predator Act’s requirement of automatic determination of a defendant as a sexual predator with no hearing on the risk of defendant’s committing future offenses violates procedural due process and the Act is unconstitutional.

Defendant who pled guilty to multiple perpetrator sexual battery and was automatically declared a sexual predator had a liberty interest infringed by the Act’s registration and public notification provisions, beyond a mere stigma, which required due process under the Fourteenth Amendment, and the Act’s requirement of automatic determination, in which the trial court has no discretion, afforded the defendant not process at all.

EX POST FACTO CASES:

Freeland v. State, 28 Fla. L. Weekly D102 (Fla. 1st DCA 2003):

Sexual offender registration and reporting requirements are regulatory and procedural in nature and do not violate the ex post facto clause.

Gonzalez v. State, 27 Fla. L. Weekly D531 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2002):

Trial court properly declared defendant, who committed crime in 1995, a sexual predator under the 1997 Act because the Act’s notification requirements are regulatory and procedural and do not constitute punishment, hence their modification cannot violate the ex post facto clause.

Donovan v. State, 26 Fla. L. Weekly D173 (Fla. 5th DCA 2001):

No error in denying relief on claim that plea would not have been entered if defendant had known that he would be required to report to FDLE as convicted sex offender.

Sexual offender reporting requirement is collateral consequence of plea.

Sexual offender statute is regulatory in nature and does not violate ex post facto clause.

Discussion: This is another appellate attempt to close the Pandora's Box opened by the 4th DCA in the Wiita opinion. This case specifically distinguished the facts from those in Wiita to justify its conclusion.

Simmons v. State, 753 So.2d 762 (Fla. 4th DCA 2000):

Sexual offender statute requiring sex offenders to submit to digital photograph which can be disseminated on Internet are regulatory and procedural in nature and do not violate ex post facto clause.

Statutes do not alter definition of criminal conduct and do not constitute punishment.

Rickman v. State, 714 So.2d 538 (Fla. 5th DCA 1998):

Requirements that defendant register under Florida Sexual Predators Act and comply with additional provisions of Act do not constitute ex post facto punishment or double jeopardy violation.

Registration requirement of Act is procedural and regulatory in nature and does not constitute punishment.

Steel v. State, 712 So.2d 1256 (Fla. 4th DCA 1998):

Where a statute has been repealed, but provisions of the repealed statute have been substantially re-enacted, the re-enacted provisions are deemed to have been in operation continuously from the original enactment.

Because the registration requirement in the 1995 Sexual Predator act was contained in the statute as it existed at the time of the instant crime, requiring appellant to register was not an ex post facto violation.

Courts have universally recognized that the registration provisions in sexual predator statutes are regulatory, not punishment, and are thus not ex post facto violations.

Amendments which require law enforcement agencies to post names and addresses of sexual predators on Internet are regulatory and procedural in nature.

Requirement that registered sexual predators secure new driver's licenses or identification cards within 10 days of a change of address and to pay the cost thereof does not constitute ex post facto imposition of costs.

Collie v. State, 710 So.2d 1000 (Fla. 2d DCA 1998):

- Trial court did not exceed its jurisdiction in designating defendant to be sexual predator more than sixty days after sentencing.
- New substantive provisions in amended statute regarding dissemination of public information and restrictions on employment and volunteer work which were added after commission of offense cannot be applied retrospectively.
- Because retrospective application of section 775.21 for purpose of seeking sexual predator designation did not increase penalty by which defendant's sexual offense was punishable, ex post facto challenge must be denied.
- Pleas bargain was not violated by subsequent sexual predator designation.
- Defendant was on notice that he would be subject to sexual predator classification by its publication in Laws of Florida or Florida Statutes.
- Designating an offender to be sexual predator after he or she has entered plea bargain does not constitute breach of contract because sexual predator designation is not form of punishment.
- Because registration requirements of section 775.21 are not so punitive as to negate legislature's clearly non-punitive intent, application of 1996 act does not violate Double Jeopardy Clauses.
- Argument that sexual predator designation, but itself, infringes on defendant's liberty rights is rejected because sexual predator statute, as applied to defendant, is non-punitive and remedial in nature.
- The only provision in 1996 Act which, if applied retrospectively, would infringe on constitutionally-protected liberty interest is employment restrictions imposed in section 775.21(9)(b).
- Review of 1996 Act does not reveal any deprivations of defendant's due process rights where employment restrictions are not applicable to defendant because they were not in effect at time he committed his current offense, and defendant has failed to argue on appeal that he is prohibited from pursuing certain employment due to sexual predator designation.
- Procedural due process guarantees of hearing and opportunity to be heard are inapplicable as to defendant.
- Sexual predator proceedings were not criminal or quasi-criminal in nature and defendant had no constitutional right to counsel.

State v. Segundo Carrasco, 701 So.2d 656 (Fla. 4th DCA 1997):

Error to deny state's petition to require public notice of presence of sexual predator on ground that statute had been repealed. Where statute was substantially re-enacted by a statute containing additions to or changes in original, re-enacted revisions were deemed to have been in operation continuously for original enactment. Registration statutes are regulatory in nature and do not constitute punishment subject to constitutional ex post facto challenges.

Fletcher v. State, 699 So.2d 346 (Fla. 5th DCA 1997)

Florida Sexual Predators Act violates neither ex post facto clause nor Rule 3.800 because designation “sexual predator” is neither a sentence nor punishment, but a status resulting from conviction of certain crimes.