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NORTH DAKOTA ON NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

BISMARCK – The national sex offender registry has expanded to include information about North Dakota’s high risk sex offenders, and that’s good news for parents and other concerned citizens, commented Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem.

“It is now possible to search for offender information in all of the thirty-three states currently a part of the national registry,” said Stenehjem. “People living in eastern North Dakota now have the comfort of knowing that with one simple search they have access to information about dangerous offenders living just across the border in Minnesota.”

The national sex offender database can be accessed from the Attorney General’s sex offender webpage at: <http://www.ag.state.nd.us/Offender.htm>, along with other web-based services intended to keep citizens informed about sex offenders living in the community. These services, which Stenehjem launched in August this year, include a mapping feature and the ability to receive e-mail notices when offenders move into or around a community.

Stenehjem’s staff has been working with the US Department of Justice since August to integrate the state’s sex offender website into the national registry. The state’s sex offender website (www.ndsexoffender.com) has received more than 250,000 visitors so far this year, and 720,206 since it went online in November 2001.

The US Department of Justice, which hosts the national website, plans to add the remaining states to the registry before the end of the year.