



Health & Safety Alert #12-4-02

ODMRDD Abuser Registry is Now Operational and Must be Used

I. Background

Senate Bill 171 created an Abuser Registry so that those few employees, who commit substantial acts of abuse, neglect, or misappropriation against individuals with MRDD, would be ineligible to work in the field again. This Registry is one of the key components of our system of ensuring the health and safety of individuals with MRDD in the State of Ohio. The Abuser Registry statute is found in Ohio Revised Code §5123.50 - 5123.54. The accompanying Abuser Registry Rule is in the Ohio Administrative Code 5123:2-17-03. The effective date of the bill was **November 22, 2000**. Employees that commit offenses on or after that date can be considered for possible Registry placement.

II. Current Status and Location

The Abuser Registry website is now fully operational. The Internet site is found at the ODMRDD home web page at <http://odmrdd.state.oh.us>. Click on any of the four (4) portals: provider, advocate, citizen, or county board. The Abuser Registry is linked to each of the four portals and can be found as a direct link at the following Internet address:

https://odmrdd.state.oh.us/apps/internet/abs/abuse_default.asp

*Please note the space between **abuse and default** above is underscored.*

The Department expects to be placing names on the Registry in the immediate future.

III. New Hire Requirements

*Employers are now required to check the Registry before hiring an applicant to confirm that they are **not** on the Registry.*

Timing – How far in advance may the employer check the Registry?

The employer may check the Registry up to 14-calendar days before the hiring of the applicant. If the hiring date and the start date of the applicant's employment are 2 different dates, the employer may check the Registry either 14-calendar days prior to the hiring or one month prior to the start date of employment.

If you are an employer in the MRDD field and have an applicant or employee with a positive match to the Registry, you must call (614) 995-3810 to alert the Department.

If you have questions about the accuracy of a search of the Registry, you should contact the Department.

IV. How to Check the Registry

There are two ways to search the Registry, either by the Internet or by telephone.

Internet Site Check

The Abuser Registry site is located at:

https://odmrdd.state.oh.us/apps/internet/abs/abuse_default.asp

It provides both full listing and targeted search functionality.

1. Complete List

To obtain a list of all individuals on the Registry, simply click the "submit" button without entering any name or social security number. A listing of all names on the Registry will be alphabetically displayed.

2. Searches

→ **Last Name and SSN:** To execute this search, enter the first four characters of the last name *and* a full social security number. This will minimize the effect of spelling errors and nicknames. Any matches on either SSN or Name will be returned. While all perpetrator SSNs may not be included on the Registry, the inclusion of the SSN provides additional protection against the use of alias and the detection of possible identity theft. ***This is the preferred method to search the list.*** The examples below use the hypothetical name and SSN of Smith, 123456789.

ODMRDD may not be able to obtain the person's SSN prior to placing the person's name on the Registry, therefore a search by SSN alone is not allowed.

All matches will return the following information:

Name - DOB - Abuse Category - Date Perpetrator Placed on Registry

If the last name/SSN is not matched when using the Internet search of the Registry, the following message will appear:

The following matches were returned by your search for: **smith** or **123456789**.

No matching records found.

→ **Last Name:** This search should be done by entering first four characters of the last name. As in the combined search, this will minimize the effect of spelling errors and nicknames. If a name or names matches the search criteria then the following information will be seen:

Name / DOB / Abuse Category / Date Perpetrator Placed on Registry

If the last name is not matched when using the Internet search of the Registry, the following message will appear:

**The following matches were returned by your search for : smith
No Matching Records found for: smith**

You will be instructed if there is a match that:

If you are an employer in the MRDD field and have an applicant or employee with a positive match to the Registry, you must call (614) 995-3810 to alert the Department.

For questions or comments regarding the above Alert, please contact the MUI/Registry Unit at (614) 995-3810.

01/04