

State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services



The Central Registry of Offenders Against
Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
N.J.A.C. 10:44D
Legislator letter

October 27, 2010

Dear Legislator:

In April 2010, Governor Chris Christie signed landmark legislation, establishing a ***Central Registry of Offenders Against Individuals with Developmental Disabilities*** (Central Registry) within the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS).

This important law, *N.J.S.A. 30:6D-73 et seq.*, takes effect today, **October 27, 2010**. It is designed to prevent caregivers who are offenders against individuals with developmental disabilities from continuing to work in the DD Community. The law protects the safety and well-being of individuals with developmental disabilities receiving care or services from:

- Facilities or programs licensed, contracted or regulated by DHS;
- State-operated programs; and
- State-funded, community-based providers.

Upon placement on the Central Registry, agencies are required to ensure that the offender ceases all contact with persons with developmental disabilities for whom they directly or indirectly receive state funding, except immediate family members. Agencies under contract, regulated or licensed by DHS are required to ensure full compliance with the provisions of the law.

For your reference, a Fact Sheet and accompanying poster regarding the DHS Central Registry is attached.

The creation of the central registry resulted from a bipartisan effort of the New Jersey Legislature and has the support of individuals with developmental disabilities, family members, advocates and service providers and this department. This important and significant initiative will ensure the protection and well-being of our most vulnerable clients. Please feel free to share the Fact Sheet and poster with any constituents you feel may benefit.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Velez
Commissioner

Attachments (2)