The Evolution of Sex Crimes Laws in Florida: Going From Registry to Life Sentence

In just over a decade, the consequences for being convicted of a sex crime have escalated from simple tracking and registration measures to outright publicity of personal details and the loss of civil rights for labeled offenders.

Conviction of sex crimes involving rape, child molestation, indecent exposure, sexual assault or child pornography have serious and unavoidable effects on a convict's later life. Even after the sentence has been served, ex-offenders are haunted by the allegations against them. At home and everywhere else, reputations suffer and careers are lost.

In 1994, the Federal Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act began as a basic registry of sex offenders, but has now turned into one of the most restrictive sets of laws in the United States—directly affecting how ex-offenders can rebuild their lives and find work after serving time. Many of these laws make sweeping policy against offenders and their rights, but every case is different, and having a practiced Florida Sex Crimes Attorney is crucial in making sure your case is handled in the best way possible.

On March 9th, 2011, Florida Governor Rick Scott applied a new policy that revokes convicted offenders' right to vote even after they've served their sentence, making reintegration into society even more punishing. With laws getting tougher on sex crime, paying back one's debt to society doesn't end with a sentence; many ex-offenders are subject to electronic monitoring and must continually register where they live, work, or go to school to law enforcement. Despite having to report these details for up to 25 years after release from prison, a convicted offender's personal information is no longer private.

With Megan's Law in affect since 1996, information and even photographs of registered sex offenders must now be completely disclosed to the public. For some, previous convictions are enough to warrant an automatic life sentence for any later sexual offense. These consequences are far too serious and long lasting to do without the advice and guidance of an expert sexual assault lawyer.

Do not wait for your free case evaluation—contact Florida Sex Crimes Defense Attorneys today for comprehensive and dedicated support in handling your charges. Visit http://www.floridasexcrimeattorney.com/ or call toll free at 866-608-5529 for immediate consultation on your sex crime allegations.