



State of California

State Authorized Risk Assessment Tool for Sex Offenders Review Committee

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May 3, 2011

Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

This is to advise you that the California SARATSO (State-Authorized Risk Assessment Tool for Sex Offenders) Committee has selected a violence risk assessment instrument for sex offenders, for use in California beginning in 2012. (See Pen. Code, §§ 290.04, 290.09.) The SARATSO Committee, after hearings in April 2010 on three such instruments, chose the LSCMI (Level of Service/Case Management Inventory). Dr. James Bonta is the author of the LSCMI and an internationally recognized expert on sex offender risk assessment. He will act as consultant to the SARATSO Committee on violence risk assessment.

The LSCMI must be used by sex offender management professionals beginning in 2012 to assess registered sex offenders while they are on probation or parole. (Pen. Code, § 290.09.) The tool measures the risk of violent re-offense, and is an evidence-based risk assessment tool. Violence risk assessment will supplement the static risk assessment now done in California using the Static-99R, and will be implemented at the same time as the use of dynamic risk assessment. The combination of these three instruments will give a better picture of the overall risk of reoffense presented by sex offenders on supervision.

The announcement of the selection of the LSCMI will be posted on the SARATSO Committee's web site,
http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/Parole/SARATSO_Committee/SARATSO.html, within 60 days.

Sincerely,

Janet Neeley
Deputy Attorney General, on behalf of
California SARATSO Committee

cc: Darrell Steinberg, Senate President pro Tem
John Perez, Speaker of the Assembly
Loni Hancock, Chair, Senate Public Safety
Tom Ammiano, Chair, Assembly Public Safety
Matthew Cate, Secretary, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation